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Issue No 44
Available from Wednesday,
July 9, 2008

THE NEWSPAPER FOR CHATHAM, GILLINGHAM, ROCHESTER, STROOD, RAINHAM & DISTRICT

MOTORING...
Hyundai having 'i'
time with city car

PAGES 33-36



JOBS...
Helping you make
the right choice

PAGES 37-42



SPORTS...
Round-up of all
the latest action

PAGES 46-47



STRIKE TO HIT VITAL SERVICES

MORE than 2,000 council workers are set to join the picket line for a two-day pay protest next week – bringing key services to their knees.

The 'Fair Pay Today' industrial action will see thousands of Unison and T&G trade union members abandon their posts on Wednesday and Thursday, July 16-17.

The strike will badly affect schools, sports centres, refuse collections and scores of other council services, with each unmanned position having a costly knock-on effect.

Union members gave the green light to industrial action last month in

EXCLUSIVE

BY SIMON ROBINSON

protest to the Government's below-inflation pay offer of 2.45 per cent.

Unison's Medway branch secretary Brian Kelly said: "We anticipate a strong turn-out. We have 2,000 members working in Medway council and so the industrial action will clearly have an impact across services."

"It's very difficult to gauge precisely what that will mean, but the strike action covers all services."

Mr Kelly said the deal offered equated to a real-term pay cut.

He said: "Unison members working within local government feel they are the poor relation in terms of other the pay increases offered to other occupations."

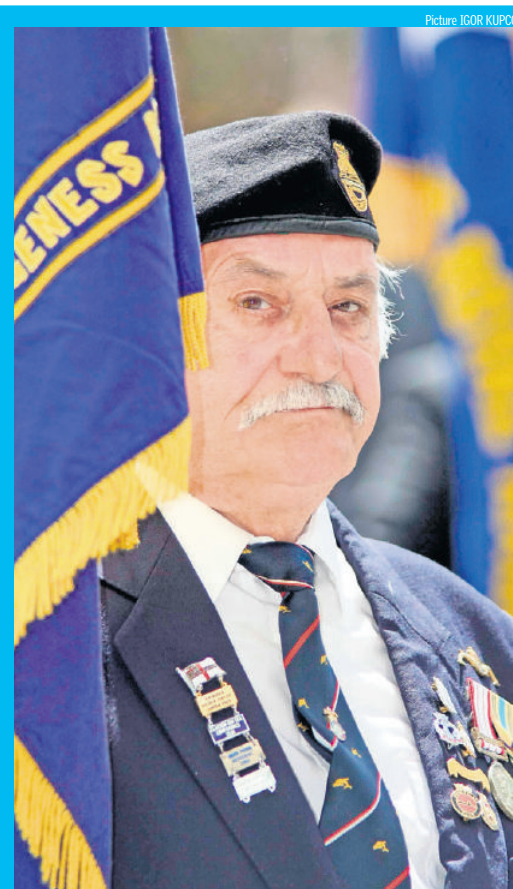
"Teachers were recently offered a higher amount and the 2.45 per cent offer is lower than that offered to health workers. Why should we suffer?"

"Our position is one of costs; real inflation is running at close to 4.5 per cent and so the pay settlement has to reflect that."

"With petrol going up by 22 per cent, mortgages going up by eight per cent, the deal being offered to us represents a wage cut."

More than 600,000 union members

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Picture: IGOR KUPCO

SALUTE TO THOSE LOST COMRADES

This proud veteran remembered lost comrades at a Veterans' Day commemorative event. He was among more than 1,000 ex-servicemen who attended the second annual event at Chatham Historic Dockyard on Saturday. The day included a morning service in the Royal Dockyard church, parades, and displays and activities from the Armed Forces.

FULL STORY AND PICTURE SPREAD ON PAGE 5

ISSN 1753-119-5



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Full screen

2 Special careers' day for primary school youngsters. See the business channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk



Full screen

3 The highs - and lows - of this weekend's much maligned Zoo8 Festival. See the leisure channel @ yourkenttv.co.uk

SEE OUR SISTER PAPERS KENT ON SUNDAY AND THE SATURDAY EDITION FOR ALL THE WEEKEND'S COUNTY NEWS AND SPORT

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Printed by Newsfax

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YOUR MONEY - YOUR LOSS!

CRACKDOWN ON THE BENEFIT CHEATS

Fraud team fights to make benefit cheats face music

BY JAMES ALEXANDRE

COUNTER fraud investigators are working round the clock to bring benefit cheats across Medway to book.

The dedicated Medway council anti-corruption team is in the process of prosecuting or considering bringing charges against more than 50 fraudsters.

The eight-strong team has 200 cases under investigation, many of which will result in further legal action being taken.

More than 100 tip-offs and leads, many coming from Yourmedway readers as a result of our 'Your Money - Your Loss' crackdown on benefit cheats, are also set to be followed up.

Medway council's counter fraud and corruption senior investigator Duncan Warmington said: "Many people who have called us have mentioned they saw the campaign in Yourmedway and picked up the phone as a result."

"The drive has been really good, it's already helping to make a difference. The more benefit fraud that can be brought into the public eye the better."

Mr Warmington's team uses surveillance techniques to catch fraudulent claimants in the act and build up enough evidence to haul them before the courts.

He said: "The counter fraud and corruption team, along with the rest of the audit services team, is charged with the duty of protecting the 'public purse', which in short means no one is stealing Medway taxpayer's money."

"Medway council's counter fraud officers do use surveillance to catch benefit fraudsters, but this is carefully monitored under the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act 2000, known as RIPA."

"The type of surveillance undertaken by council officers only occurs in places where any member of the public could be or could be seen."

"For example, waiting in a street to see who comes out of a particular house or following someone to a workplace."

The council's finance chief, Alan Jarrett, also praised the Your Money - Your Loss initiative, which aims to root out con artists who drained more than £400,000 of taxpayers' money last year alone.

He said: "I want everyone to realise that benefit fraud is a crime that won't be tolerated."

"Medway council takes the theft of public money very seriously. This is money that could be spent on providing essential services to the community and I urge everyone to support this important campaign and report any benefit crimes to our benefits team or Yourmedway."

"Anyone caught cheating the system will be prosecuted and will have to repay what they have stolen - and they could be imprisoned."

During the last year, 41 fraudsters were prosecuted for cheating the benefit system.

A further 46 received formal cautions, while three more received administrative penalties.

• If you know of a benefit cheat you can call Medway council's investigations team on 01634 332305 or leave a message on the fraud hotline on 0800 083 7049.

• Email yourmedway@kosmedia.co.uk

yourmedway

NEWS IN BRIEF

No bail for attempted kidnapping suspect

A MAN charged with the attempted kidnap of a teenage girl has been remanded in custody.

Kenneth Roy Clarke, 23, of Derwent Way in Gillingham, appeared before Medway magistrates on Friday. His case has been sent to Maidstone Crown Court.

Clarke was charged with attempting to kidnap a 14-year-old schoolgirl following his arrest at 2.45pm on Wednesday, July 2.

A trial date is to be announced.

Sapper in hospital after barracks fall

A SOLDIER has been recovering in hospital from serious injuries after falling from a second-floor window at a barracks in Medway.

The man, who has not been named, was found on the ground outside the window at the Royal School of Military Engineers in Chatham in the early hours of last Tuesday morning.

The soldier, who was taken to a London hospital, had been taking a course and was not based in Medway.

Cat shot in heart in evil pellet gun attack

SICK thugs are being hunted by police after shooting a cat more than ten times with an air rifle - with one pellet piercing the pet's heart.

The severely injured animal was found in The Street in Upper Halling on Monday and rushed to the vet's.

An X-ray showed the cat had been hit more than ten times. The final vets bill is expected to pass £600. Witnesses are asked to call Medway police on 01634 792532.

Big bids expected for keys to lock-up units

A ROW of 36 garages in Chatham will go under the hammer next week with a guide price of £145,000.

The lock-up units in Montrose Avenue will be sold to the highest bidder at the Ramada Hotel in Maidstone on Friday, July 18.

The garages are rented out and bring in an income of about £12,000 per annum.

The auction is being organised by Clive Emson. Visit www.cliveemson.co.uk.

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Overtime nets cops £2.3 million extra

'It's too much work for too few officers'

EXCLUSIVE

BY SIMON ROBINSON

POLICE officers have pocketed a whopping £2.3 million in overtime payments during the last three years.

Constables and sergeants at Medway police notched up 109,000 additional hours between 2005-08 – an average of 36,000 extra hours each year.

Figures obtained by Yourmedway through a Freedom of Information request to Kent police show the officers' overtime peaked in 2006-07, when they worked more than 40,000 overtime hours, earning an extra £905,000.

Across Kent, PCs and sergeants worked an extra 2.9 million hours during the same three-year period, taking home close to £65 million in additional payments.

Officers in the Special Operations unit earned the bulk of that cash, pocketing £10.8 million for 470,000 overtime hours.

Payments to police across the UK topped half



DUTY BOUND: It's believed that many police officers fail to claim some overtime hours prompting calls for more recruits

a billion pounds last year alone but Kent Police Federation chairman Ian Pointon said the true figure was likely to be much higher.

He said: "I think there are probably millions more in unclaimed overtime hours that officers either use to take extra days off or they do not claim because of goodwill. If all officers decided to claim their overtime at once then I would not be surprised if it bankrupted many forces."

The Police Federation of England and Wales' constables' central committee's chairman Julie Nesbit said forces are in desperate need of more officers.

She said: "Overtime will be going up for the simple reason that officers are reducing in numbers. Forces across England and Wales are say-

ing they will reduce the number of constables and the workload is definitely not being reduced so overtime is the only answer. "If forces want to see the figure reduced then they should hire more officers not fewer; £400 million (the amount of overtime paid to officers in England and Wales) would buy an awful lot of constables."

The Police Federation's sergeants' central committee's chairman Paul McKeever agreed that more officers are needed but said that until then, overtime is the only fair system of remuneration.

He added: "Overtime is certainly something our members feel is the right way to reward them for the work they do. I do not see how replacing it with a higher basic wage could work."

Summer shows lose £150,000

THE council-run Castle Concerts made a loss of more than £150,000 last year, new figures show.

Events chiefs ploughed £670,000 into staging the six-night event in summer 2007, but lost more than £25,000 on average per night.

Former Kinks frontman Ray Davies' solo gig proved the biggest financial flop, coming up £74,000 short, while Motown legend Smokey Robinson's performance ran at a loss of £73,000.

The Liberal Democrats slammed council bigwigs, saying they are wasting money on the concerts while making cutbacks across their services.

Lib Dem group leader Geoff Juby said: "How on earth can the council justify spending this kind of money putting on concerts that lose £150,000?"

"This is absolutely disgraceful."

Medway council's deputy leader Alan Jarrett defended the concerts, saying: "Each year the Liberals like to criticise the summer concerts, but they forget the social, economic and cultural benefits they bring to Rochester and to Medway."

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Funny goings-on during Mighty Boosh Festival at Paddock Wood

Council refuses to comment on union's decision

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

across England, Wales and Northern Ireland are expected to take part in next week's strike.

Unison's general secretary Dave Prentis said: "The decision to strike has not been taken lightly, but years of pay cuts and recent hikes in fuel, food and housing costs has left our members with little choice."

Strong

"The employers must realise we mean business."

"They must also understand they can resolve this dispute by coming up with a decent offer."

"Our members are loyal public service workers and our case for fair pay is strong."

A Medway council spokeswoman declined to comment on the effect the strike may have on council services.

Human trafficking raids catch victims used in sex trade

BY LAUREN MUMFORD

SEVEN women were arrested in Medway for prostitution offences during a nationwide police crack-down on human trafficking.

The figure was revealed this week as part of a report into the Home Office-led Operation Pentameter 2 campaign, which aimed to rescue victims smuggled into the country and forced to work in the sex trade.

The paper shows Kent police arrested the seven women in synchronised raids on eight premises across the towns.

Five were arrested at properties in Chatham, while three were taken from premises in Gillingham and two in Rochester.

Two foreign girls trafficked into Medway and forced to work in seedy brothels were also rescued during the operation.

Victims are often coerced or deceived into entering the UK and can be kidnapped, falsely imprisoned and raped.

Across the county, police stormed

dozens of premises during the campaign, arresting 50 people for offences such as managing a brothel and conspiracy to traffic women for the sex trade.

Assistant Chief Constable Allyn Thomas, who coordinated the Kent operation, said: "While the main objective of this campaign was to identify and rescue victims of trafficking, we are continuously working to make sure that those organised crime groups who are at the centre of this activity are repeatedly targeted."

"We will not only put them before the courts, but will seize any money or assets they make through this trade to ensure they do not profit from their criminality."

Anyone with information about human trafficking is asked to call Kent police 01622 690690 or Kent Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

See motoring editor
Steve Loader's review
on the new Hyundai
i10 on page 33

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Police give advice to tackle horse crime

HORSE owners have been urged to be extra vigilant after an attempted burglary at a stable during which six ponies were set loose.

The incident took place between 8pm on June 30 and 7.30am the following morning at The Barn Riding Stables on Cooling Common in Cliffe. The livery yard was broken into, items moved around and six of the ponies turned loose from their boxes.

Police have advised horse owners to review the security of their stables.

College to train up future big brothers

EAGLE-eyed students at Mid-Kent College are among the first in the county to enrol on a CCTV course.

The module, run from the Horsted campus, is led by retired Met police officer Mick Harrison, who spent the last ten years operating CCTV cameras in the capital.

He said: "Mid-Kent College allows students access to Horsted's training control room. Very few establishments in the country use facilities like these purely for training."

Free fuel snapped up by dedicated listeners

TWENTY-five motorists topped up with free fuel on Friday thanks to Invicta FM.

The lucky listeners were the first to the pumps at the Texaco petrol station in Strood in the radio station's Free Fuel Friday promotion.

The location for the £25 giveaways of fuel for 25 motorists was kept secret until announced on air at 4pm.

Breakfast show presenter James Heming said: "Make sure you are listening to Invicta FM to find out where the next Free Fuel Friday will be."

Good things come in a very little exhibition

AN EXHIBITION of intricate dolls' houses will be on display in Rainham later this month.

The event will be held at St Margaret's C of E Junior School on Saturday and Sunday, July 26-27, and features an assortment of allied miniatures, such as model aircraft and vintage cars.

Entry is £2 for adults and 50p for children. A quarter of the admission fee will be donated to the Kent Air Ambulance Trust. The exhibition runs from 10am to 4pm each day.

Offenders agree with acceptable behaviour

EXCLUSIVE

BY SIMON ROBINSON

VOLUNTARY anti-social behaviour orders are helping reduce crime in Medway, say police.

During the last financial year more than 200 people, aged ten to 80, signed a six-month acceptable behaviour agreement (ABA), promising to abide by a list of strict conditions.

Anti-social behaviour officer Jackie Lineham said the contracts played their part in a three per cent fall in nuisance crime, ranging from petty theft to kerb crawling.

She said: "The tailor-made voluntary agreements are a really useful tool. ABAs are about putting boundaries in place for young people and getting them to understand acceptable behaviour."

"They can be used for just about anything and the impact on the community is almost immediate."

ABAs give police and community partners such as Medway



SUCCESSFUL: Medway Police are pleased with the results of the acceptable behaviour agreements, find out more on yourkenttv.co.uk

council and housing associations an alternative to the ASBO, which is court imposed.

Ms Lineham said: "It's a staged approach, with the ASBO at the end. ABAs give us an alternative to putting offenders into the criminal justice system."

"In one example there was a teenage boy who caused thousands of pounds of damage spraying graffiti."

"He signed an ABA and stopped, stayed on at school and

did his A Levels. In that case we used restorative justice, which tries to restore the balance between victim and offender."

"As part of the boy's agreement he cleaned off some of the graffiti and also spoke to one of the victims. The offender gained an understanding of how long it takes to wash off the graffiti and the effect it has on other people's lives."

The 205 ABAs signed in 2007/08 are up from just 33 in the

previous year and 27 in 2005/06.

PC Caroline Pope said: "ABAs are not a punishment. It's about getting individuals to be responsible for their actions and to understand the impact their behaviour has on the community."

"I think they've had a big impact. Sitting someone down and confronting them with their behaviour is very powerful."

"Anti-social behaviour is down and ABAs are one of the tools to have contributed to that."

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OPENING OUR EYES TO DISABILITY



VISUALLY-impaired Chris Davies will feature in the latest production by Aardman animations, the award-winning team behind loveable duo Wallace and Gromit.

Mr Davies, from Chatham, provides the voice of Callum the Chameleon in two episodes of the six-week Creature Discomforts campaign, which aims to change attitudes towards disabilities.

In one animation, Chris' chameleon - joined by a guide ladybird - tells how some people have treated him since his eyesight started to deteriorate in 1997.

He said: "The number of people who've told me 'you can't do that', it really annoys me. Especially seeing as I can do it better than them sometimes."

The Aardman team has created another five characters for the Leonard Cheshire Disability campaign, including an owl and a shrimp in wheelchairs, a hearing-impaired Cheshire cat, a rabbit and a mouse.

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Celebrating veterans invite you to wear badge of honour

MORE than a thousand ex-servicemen converged on Chatham Historic Dockyard on Saturday to mark the second annual Veterans Day.

The commemorative event attracted former Armed Forces personnel and their guests from across Kent, all keen to recognise the service and sacrifices made by their lost comrades and colleagues.

The day also celebrated Kent TA100 – the 100th anniversary of the founding of the modern Territorial Army.

Both aspects of the day acknowledged the efforts of veterans young and old, who served in conflicts dating back from the Second World War through to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The emotive event began with a morning service in the Royal Dockyard church, followed by a range of displays and activities from the armed forces.

Highlights included the Royal Engineers' drive-a-digger attraction, a climbing wall

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON



BRAVE: Top, veterans raise the standard, left the heroes of today, above a brave soldier of the future

manned by the Army Cadet Force and infantry displays by the Princess of Wales' Royal Regiment.

Throughout the day Medway MPs Jonathan Shaw and Paul Clark urged all ex-service personnel to register for a Veteran's Badge.

In a joint statement the Labour MPs said: "We believe it is very important that we recognise and support our veterans."

"Ultimately the aim is that every veteran of our armed forces, and those who have lost a husband or wife on active service, will get the badge."

"The many heroic acts and sacrifices of our veterans and their families must never be forgotten."

Leslie Bardy, ex-Staff Sergeant with the Royal Engineers, urged fellow veterans to apply for a badge.

He said: "I am aware some service personnel feel they would not really fit in as a veteran with only doing a short service and the possibility of standing next to someone who has been in the forces for a period of 22 years."

"I would like to inform these veterans that I would be very proud to have them standing next to me at any parade or Veterans Day."

"They may have only done three, six or nine years in the service, but this doesn't matter."

"Most of the young service personnel these days are away fighting in one theatre or another before the ink is dry on their ID cards."

"With what they are put through they are heroes and have the right to be called veterans."

Veterans who wish to apply for the badge should contact Jonathan Shaw MP on 01634 811 573 or e-mail sallg@parliament.uk, or Paul Clark MP on 0207 219 5207 or e-mail davistr@parliament.uk.



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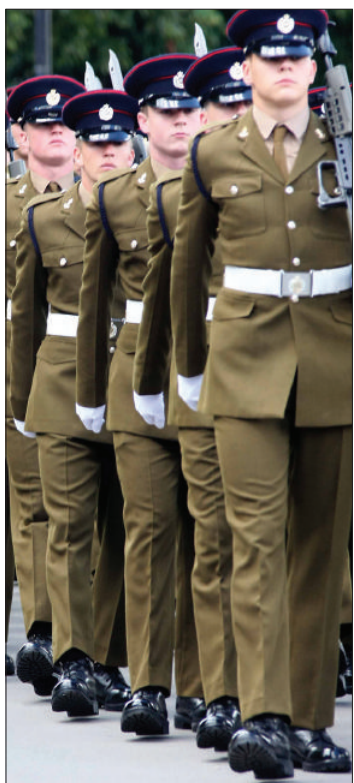
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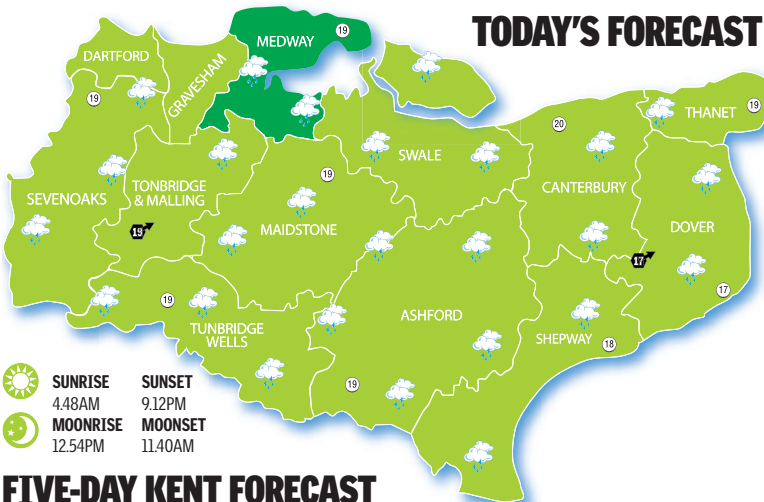
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MOONRISE
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MOONSET
11.40AM

FIVE-DAY KENT FORECAST

	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon		Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Ashford	18°C	18°C	21°C	21°C	21°C	Gravesend	19°C	20°C	22°C	21°C	21°C
Canterbury	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	21°C	Maidstone	19°C	19°C	21°C	22°C	22°C
Chatham	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	Ramsgate	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	21°C
Dartford	19°C	20°C	22°C	21°C	21°C	Rochester	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	20°C
Dover	16°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	Sevenoaks	17°C	17°C	20°C	19°C	19°C
Faversham	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	Sittingbourne	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	20°C
Folkestone	16°C	17°C	18°C	18°C	18°C	Tonbridge	18°C	18°C	20°C	20°C	20°C
Gillingham	19°C	19°C	20°C	20°C	20°C	Tun Wells	18°C	18°C	20°C	20°C	20°C



WEEKEND HIGH TIDES

Chatham	Saturday	6:46am	5.4m
	Sunday	7:36am	5.1m
Dover	Saturday	5:18pm	6.0m
	Sunday	6:18pm	5.7m
Dungeness	Saturday	5:24pm	6.6m
	Sunday	6:23pm	6.3m
Ramsgate	Saturday	5:48pm	4.5m
	Sunday	6:27am	4.2m
Sheerness	Saturday	6:35am	5.2m
	Sunday	7:24am	5.0m
Whitstable	Saturday	6:42am	4.8m
	Sunday	7:28am	4.6m



AROUND THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Amsterdam	18°C	Madrid	27°C
Athens	33°C	New York	24°C
Barcelona	23°C	Paris	18°C
Beijing	30°C	Rome	30°C
Bombay	30°C	Sydney	19°C
Cape Town	12°C	Tenerife	26°C
Cardiff	16°C	Tokyo	26°C
Gibraltar	27°C	Vancouver	20°C
Hong Kong	26°C	Warsaw	24°C
Las Palmas	24°C	Wellington	8°C



STIMULATION: Police donation will help adults with severe learning and physical disabilities at the Balfour Centre

Cops' donation a boost for care centre patients

AN ADULTS' day care centre has received a £400 donation from Medway police.

Staff at the Balfour Centre's enhanced care unit accepted the cash earlier this week.

Day centre officer Emma MacQuillin said the cash would be used to buy a sensory box for the Rochester premises, which cares for adults with profound and complex physical and learning difficulties.

Detective Constable Steve Taylor, from Medway's hate crime unit, presented the cheque and said: "We deal with all branches of diversity, including the disabled and I am delighted this worthwhile organisation has been able to benefit from the fund."

"The centre is an excellent facility and offers a fantastic service to the community, providing stimulation, a sense of belonging, socialisation and a much-needed break for parents and carers and it is great to be able to return something back to the community in this way."



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yourlocalinterview

QUESTION & ANSWER

JANE JONES



Q Can you tell us a little about yourself?

A I moved to Kent from London in the late 80s. Apart from when I spent some time at school in California, I had a very traditional academic education, studying at Oxford University. From there I went on to a career in international finance, ending up in a bank at the time power dressing was at its peak. I cringe when I remember the shoulder pads and bright tights. It was a really exciting and privileged world, but it kept you out of touch with reality. Then international circumstances meant I was made redundant.

While I was looking round, I decided to reply to an advert for part-time business studies lecturers at Mid-Kent College. I went for an interview thinking I had no chance since I had no teaching experience. Much later, I was told they couldn't believe their luck someone who could teach both accounting and IT wanted lots of hours of teaching. But that is one of the brilliant things about the college – it gives real second chances – not just to students, but staff, who are given opportunities too.

Q What is your role at the college and what are your responsibilities?

A I've been a vice principal at Mid-Kent College for five years. For the last couple of years I have been on a secondment taking charge of our £86 million project to build a new campus in Medway. I came up through the ranks from being a part-time lecturer.

When I joined in 1991, I would never have imagined I would still be here 17 years later but I love the place and the people.

Q What are the best bits about your job?

A Feeling that what we are doing will make a huge difference to so many people in Medway. Mid-Kent College really is a place where anyone can transform their lives. The new campus will allow us to give that chance to even more people.

Rather stupidly when I agreed to take on the project I thought it was all about building something. I quickly realised it's just like running any operation with a multi-million pound budget – the people factor is the most important – thinking about how to fit in the needs of all the students and staff who will use the campus, plus getting the hundreds of people on the project to feel motivated.

Q And the worst bits?

A If I have one regret about my career it's that I didn't stay long in teaching, moving too quickly to management roles. Having said that, the job I'm doing now is by far the most exciting I've ever had.

Q How excited are you by the new campus?

A Taking charge of an £86 million construction project is always going to be an excit-

ing experience, especially for a woman who has no previous experience of the construction industry. It is difficult to describe how excited I get when I visit the site and see what a superb facility it will be. It keeps me going.

Q What will the campus offer?

A It is positioned right next to the universities in Medway and can accommodate nearly 30 per cent more students than Horsted and City Way. We are designing it to be physically more welcoming than our existing buildings.

It will have state-of-the-art training facilities in a wide range of subject areas, including construction, engineering, hospitality and catering, hair and beauty, and performing arts.

Q What do you like to do when you're not at work?

A I have just moved down to the seafront at Tankerton. As well as trying to get my new place sorted out, I am enjoying being able to step out of my door and take long, sunny walks along the beach.

Q Tell us something most people do not know about you.

A I love playing computer games. Most people think that's fairly weird for a middle-aged woman but my neighbours' kids think I'm really cool – not like a real adult at all.

Q & A

The Mid-Kent College vice principal talks to **Simon Robinson** about her role, the new multi-million pound campus and the joy of not acting like a real adult at all.



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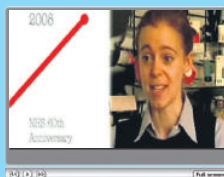
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Racing legend John Surtees talks to Tom Howard about the launch of Let's Go Karting. Search 'karting'

EDITOR'S CHOICE

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Is smokeless cigarette the pub trade's saviour?

BY TOM BETTS

THEY say there's no smoke without fire – but in this case it's quite the opposite.

An alternative method of puffing away at the pub has drifted into the national consciousness and is causing quite a stir in the industry.

So-called electronic or alternative cigarettes give users the sensation of smoking, even producing a vapour that can be inhaled and exhaled while delivering the nicotine hit, but are legal as no harmful smoke is emitted.

One brand on the market is called the SuperSmoker.

Its Ultimo model, which retails at around £78, allows smokers to dodge the smoking ban, which has now been in place for a year.

Inventors say the system helps people lead a healthier lifestyle and is much cheaper, claiming it can knock 65 per cent off normal smoking costs.

It is legal to use inside pubs and clubs as it causes no harm to those sharing their air.

Cartridges are placed into a pre-charged atomiser and users suck on it like a normal cigarette.

The firm says it looks, tastes and "smokes" like a conventional cigarette but has no detrimental health effects on others and doesn't cause cancer.

We asked 58-year-old smoker Graham Bates from Herne Bay to trial the SuperSmoker Ultimo on a trip to his local.



SMOKE FREE: Tom Betts tries out the smokeless SuperSmoker Ultimo down the local

He said: "I felt a little strange using it. It does have a certain sensation of smoking but you have to suck pretty hard to get much out and it leaves a sugary taste on the lips."

"I used it in the pub and the barman did initially ask me to stop but I showed him the product and then he was fine with it. He said he had seen them before and had no issues with people using them."

Mark Bradley, assistant manager of the Prince of Wales pub in Railway Street, Chatham, said: "I've actually got one of the electronic cigarettes."

"I went to the London Bar Show last week and they were giving them out. I think they're brilliant and bought some for my staff."

Sam Griggs, trainee assistant manager of the Druid's Arms in Earl Street, Maidstone, said: "I

think they're a good idea.

"I've not seen anyone using them in the pub. We've only got a little garden and it normally gets packed with smokers, so products like this may become quite popular."

"It might cause a bit of conflict, though, as other customers may think they are real cigarettes."

Graham Moore, landlord of the Duke's Head in Sellindge, said: "I wouldn't have any objections to them being used here. If they are legal to use indoors and don't disturb anyone else, then that's fine."

Ian Gray, from the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health, has looked into the innovation.

He said: "We have been the advisors to all the regulatory authorities on this matter and are hearing about it more and more."

"Our main concern was that officers wouldn't be able to tell the difference, but it is clear if you are close to them they are not normal cigarettes. They are perfectly legal to use because, in our view, this isn't smoking."

"It is unlikely that a local authority would want to make a prosecution as the legislation is to protect people from second-hand smoke."

"If there is no smoke, then there is not really a basis for a prosecution."

Mr Gray said the device was catching on. "They seem to be using them a lot in the North. I suppose if you don't want to go outside, it's a real alternative."

"They seem to be particularly popular in bingo halls, especially among older people who may not want to get up and go outside and all that goes with that, such as collecting your coat."

Railway fare hikes anger commuters

RAIL commuters are braced for inflation-busting hikes in fares, with rises of up to 15 per cent on the way.

Politicians and consumer groups have reacted angrily to the "ludicrous" increases.

Train firms base their annual price increases for fares regulated by the Government, such as season tickets, on the retail price index (RPI) for July plus one per cent.

City analysts have predicted the figure will be 4.5 per cent or more, meaning a 5.5 per cent rise across most fares in January 2009.

But under its franchise agreement with the Department of Transport, Southeastern is allowed to add three per cent to the RPI figure for Kent fares, leading to big hikes for passengers in the county.

And because the company is not allowed to add the extra three per cent to fares in London, Kent commuters can expect to pick up the bill for the two per cent the company is missing out on in the capital.

Tunde Olatunji, Kent spokesman for the national rail watchdog Passenger Focus, called for the suspension of the plus-three rule because of the financial pressures already facing passengers due to the credit squeeze and fuel prices.

He said: "In London fares are not allowed to go beyond RPI plus one per cent, so the extra money Southeastern is allowed to claim all falls on Kent passengers. Kent is picking up the extra two per cent London is not paying."

A Southeastern official said talk of fare increases in January was speculative because the July RPI would not be known until August.

She said: "We received £140 million last year in subsidies. Over a year that goes down by £20 million."

"The idea is that as our subsidy decreases passengers pay more towards the cost of their travel because it is less subsidised."



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Thursday 21 August 2-8pm
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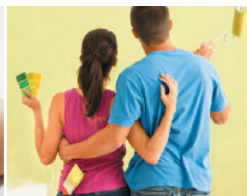


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Call of the wild on musical safari

BY NICK AMES

HUNDREDS of pupils from schools across the county hit the right note as they descended on a wild animal park for a day of musical fun.

The Kent Music Safari was designed to introduce youngsters to the joys of live music and give them a chance to experience a range of music styles.

Held at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park, near Hythe, our online TV crew was there to capture the atmosphere. You can access the clip by logging on to our free broadband TV site www.yourkenttv.co.uk.

Among the performers were the African Djembe Drummers, who set the beat for the day.

Kevin Richards, a specialist in African percussion, held workshops in which the children took part in traditional dancing and singing.

Kent Music School was behind the



BLOWING FREE: Having a go was all part of the Kent Music Safari fun at Port Lympne

event. Teaching development manager Richard Davenport said: "It is essential for children to be introduced to live music. It is such a confidence booster. Children who have been trying out the instruments love being able to play something. It gives them a sense of self-esteem."

Sessions took place at the mansion and in the gardens, where musicians were on hand to play brass, string and wind instruments. The visitors were shown basic techniques and encouraged to have a go. Schools from Folkestone, Ashford, Thanet, Tunbridge Wells, Canterbury, Dart-

ford and Edenbridge were among about 20 taking part.

The South Kent Youth Orchestra gave two concerts in the grounds. They performed film scores including James Bond movie themes and music from The Lord Of The Rings trilogy.

Their performance also included the challenging classical pieces Danse Macabre and Weber's Bassoon Concerto.

Pupils were also able to take part in a walking safari of the park, which included the chance to see new-born tiger cubs.

Tricia Corkhill, from Port Lympne, said: "This excellent event means children from across the county can experience the music of different cultures. Whether it is African drumming or classical tones, they can also have a go themselves."

"The children can take on board the expertise of musicians while also learning something of the culture from which the music comes."

"The park is a wonderful setting for such a gathering which helps to broaden the horizons of the young people and introduce them to music

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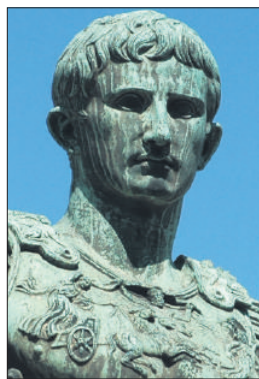
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they may not otherwise have heard."

It heralded the start of a busy musical weekend for Port Lympne. The three-day 2008 festival got under way on Friday with thousands of music fans flocking to catch the likes of Mark Ronson, The Hives and The Cribbs.



TIME AND TIDE: Caesar's invasion has been studied by American academics

Tide of history pinpoints Caesar's invasion

JULIUS Caesar's first landing on the coast of Kent in 55BC could not have been on the days commonly assumed, according to academics from the US.

The traditional view is that the Romans carried out their first foray into Britain on the night of August 26-27. Their first approach was near present-day Dover, where many British warriors were waiting in battle formation.

So the invasion force is thought to have manoeuvred its galleys up the coast towards Deal.

But Dr Donald Olson, a researcher at Texas State University, said this would not have been possible

as tides in the Channel were flowing the wrong way.

His team says an invasion on the night of August 22-23 would have been far more likely.

It is acknowledged by historians that Caesar came to Britain with about 100 ships and two legions with a total of 10,000 men.

But as his fleet neared the white cliffs, lookouts spotted a large force of heavily-armed warriors whose spears could have reached the landing ground.

So the commander ordered his fleet to search for an alternative landing site which was recorded as being "an open and flat shore".

There has also been some debate as to where this actually was – but between Deal and Walmer is favoured by historians. During his writings on the campaign, Caesar mentioned strong tides, a full moon and an ocean current.

Dr Olson studied these documents and found that August 2007 had very similar tides to the same month in 55BC, so his team conducted an experiment, the results of which have just been revealed.

He dropped an apple off Deal pier which floated south-west towards Dover, suggesting that the Roman fleet could not have battled against the tide even though the galleys

were equipped with banks of oars.

"The Channel was flowing the wrong way," said Dr Olson.

Further experiments with tides during the month pointed to the date a few days earlier as being ideal for a landfall in the Deal area.

The first Roman invasion never penetrated far into Kent and Caesar's ship were battered by high winds and rough seas.

They went back to France before winter set in but returned in force the following year, fighting the Britons at what is now Canterbury and in the hills behind Folkestone before crossing the Medway to complete the conquest of local tribes.

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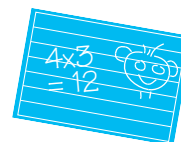
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Bright future for infants with a little extra work

ST NICHOLAS CE Infant School has been given a three-point improvement plan after its latest Ofsted inspection.

The Strood school, which teaches 109 four- to seven-year olds, was found to be 'good' and moving in the right direction, but suffered from weaknesses in a number of areas.

Ofsted inspector Kevin Hodge said the school should focus on giving pupils more opportunities for problem solving and investigative work in science, review the use of the outside activity area for foundation stage youngsters and develop awareness of different cultures to push standards on.

Overall, however, the school was said to be performing well.

Mr Hodge wrote: "This is a good school where happy and enthusiastic pupils make good progress because they are well taught and well cared for."

"Some outstanding features include the way in which pupils are encouraged to enjoy learning and relate really well to their classmates."

"Parents, pupils, staff and governors are rightly confident in the quality of education on offer."

"This reflects the overwhelming support and the close links that there are between home and school."

The report goes on to say that pastoral and physical care are "excellent" and praises

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

"outstanding" aspects such as the way pupils are encouraged to enjoy learning.

Endorsements from parents are also included in the in-depth report.

One said: "In the several years my children have been here, I have been extremely happy with the care, support and education they have received."

Another described St Nicholas as "like a village school in an urban setting."

The report praises the work of the headteacher and her staff, saying the school is well-led and managed, and that the senior leadership team and governors are "clearly focused" on improving areas that their self-evaluation procedures identify.

Headteacher Anne-Marie Hutton said: "I'm delighted to see the commitment, dedication and teamwork of all members of the school community have been reflected in this good report."

"We are continuing to drive for high standards for all our pupils, placing the school at the centre of the community."

Children's services director Rose Collinson said: "I'm pleased Ofsted recognises the good leadership and teamwork at St Nicholas School, which enables children to have a great start, progress well and be very confident about a bright future."

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BREAK TIME



Chance to try out for snow tour

SNOWBOARD supremos will stop off at two Medway schools tomorrow and Friday ahead of the Chatham leg of the British Snow Tour.

The adrenalin-fuelled skiers and snowboarders will visit St John Fisher Catholic School and Chatham South School before heading to Chatham Ski Centre on Saturday for the two-day competition.

Medway-born entrants will be hoping for a repeat performance of last year's Animal British Snowboard and Freeski Slopestyle Championships, in which two of them finished among the medals.

Cody Hierons, 14, (above) took a silver medal in the main men's event, while 18-year-old Callum Wilkin picked up a bronze in the Air Jam contest.

A tour spokesman said: "The British Snow Tour looks forward to discovering fresh talent, crowning new British champions and inspiring future ones by giving away 1,000 free lessons."

"To catch the UK's best freestylers in action and take advantage of the free product testing, where you can try out next season's ski and snowboard equipment head down to Chatham Ski and Snowboard Centre on Saturday and Sunday."

The competition is based on an open entry for all abilities.

For event timings, to book your spot on one of the free beginner lessons up for grabs, or to register to compete visit www.britishtsnowtour.com.

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Terror tactics to scare us out of downloading

IN the dark ages before the internet, if there was one thing that used to get film and movie bosses hot under the collar it was pirate copies of their beloved products.

For those with long memories, the campaigns on how 'home taping is killing music' will be familiar. Oh yes, recording a copy of your favourite album on to a dodgy old cassette was once enemy number one.

The fact the quality was pretty much always so disappointing (hearing a good album taped would make you run to the nearest shop to buy the original), was disregarded.

The same applied to the film business. Buying a dodgy video of a recently released film was, in some parts, akin to stealing money from the elderly, as opposed to watching a film which looked like it had been shot through a cheese grater, such was the quality.

In reality, of course, the good law-abiding majority avoided sinning in such a way –

because they didn't like dipping a tiny toe in the waters of the copyright infringers.

After all, the powers-that-be would have us believe, parting with money for a dodgy copy of Ghostbusters 2 ensured your cash was going straight into the back pocket of the IRA or any other terrorist or drug gang. There was a very real element of fear.

But then came the internet. And everything changed. In fact, it changed so quickly, the big studios were left far behind.

There they were, smoking their big fat cigars and dabbling their tiny toes in vast luxurious swimming pools in their mansions – clearly the impact of those nasty tapers didn't cut too deep into their profit margins – while the rest of the world realised just what the online platform offered. Crucially, it proved once and for all, that those flogging copies in the past were just trying to make a few extra quid – and probably not spending the cash on arms or car bombs. Because the internet allowed everything to become free.

When the execs heard this was widespread

they all fell into their pools and woke up.

And so they started closing down file-sharing networks faster than you could download the latest Take That album. And now, it appears, they are getting just plain nasty.

Last week internet service provider Virgin Media, working with the British Phonographic Industry, wrote to 800 users – with thousands more targeted – warning them if they keep using file-sharing sites (clearly they are monitoring where we surf pretty closely) then they face big trouble.

Of course, it only takes one high-profile case of a granny being sued for £20 quillion to scare most of us into never doing it again. And win, they surely will.

For instead of blaming terrorists for being such rotters, now terror is being deployed on the end user. And that's a real shame.

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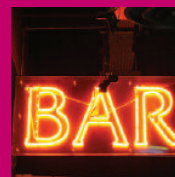
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yourcompetition

WIN a family photo session

JOSEPH Nicéphore Niépce, a French inventor, created the first permanent photograph in 1826, and Venture took his invention to a new creative high in 2000 when it opened its first state-of-the-art photography studio.

Now, to celebrate National Photography Week from July 7-13, Venture is opening the doors of its Canterbury outlet to give you the chance to experience a studio session for free.

Venture is offering ten readers the chance to win their own creative session and a 7x5 image in its Canterbury studio on Lower Bridge Street.

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To be in with a chance to win a session for free, simply answer the question here and send your entry on a postcard, along with your email address (if applicable), name, address, and daytime telephone number to Venture



Comp, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. The closing date is July 30, 2008.

Question: In what year did the French inventor Joseph Nicéphore Niépce create the first permanent photograph?

No purchase necessary. For our full KOS Media terms and conditions see www.kentnews.co.uk or phone 01303 817073.

Rules: 1. Prize valid for two months from competition end.

2. Voucher cannot be used in conjunction with other offers, is not redeemable for cash or any other goods and may only be used as described.

3. Prize is non-transferable for a family, group or individual photography session.

4. Prize includes value of session (£50) and a 7x5 framed image or £95 to spend against a larger display with higher balance to be paid directly to the studio.

5. Please clearly mark your entry if you do not want to receive further information.

6. Competition not open to employees of Venture UK, Production & Studios or associated agencies.



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TALK TIME

JULIE RICHARDS

The amateur dramatics fan took the time to talk to Yourmedway about her involvement with the Gillingham Dramatic Society.



Can you tell us a little about yourself?

By day I am a research scientist working for a company developing diagnostic tests, but I have been involved in amateur dramatics since the age of ten.

Tell us a little about Gillingham Dramatic Society and how you got involved?

I got involved with GDS about eight years ago after I moved to the area from London. We are a friendly group with a membership of about 60, varying from show to show. We usually put on a musical in mid-October and a pantomime in February half-term. We also put on private concerts each year for nursing homes, Women's Institutes, the Masons etc, to raise extra funds.

I don't think people realise how expensive it is to put on a major production. Our main musical nearly always makes a loss so we have to raise the money by other means.

Can you name some of the films GDS members have featured in?

We've always had close links with the Historic Dockyard and put on shows for many of their events, even appearing on the news for the opening of their museum. Many of our members have been extras in Foyle's War and a few years ago some members appeared in a film made for a Japanese production company.

Tell us something most people don't know about GDS.

In March of this year Gillingham Operatic and Dramatic Society changed its name to Gillingham Dramatic Society (shortened to GDS Productions). This was because we felt it was misleading to have "operatic" in our title when we don't actually perform any opera.

Anything you'd like to add?

Our next production will be Oliver! at the Brook Theatre in Chatham from October 14-18. Please check out our website, www.gillinghamoperatic.co.uk/, for more details.

YOUR LETTERS

Activists to use river armada to storm Kingsnorth

Eco-campaigners have announced plans to take their anti-coal Kingsnorth protest to the water during a week-long demonstration, Yourmedway reports.

The Camp for Climate Action said a flotilla of life rafts will be launched into the River Medway in August to help in their efforts to "shut down" the plant.

The green fleet will set sail between August 3 and 12, coinciding with the plant's annual maintenance period.

Action is the only way to be heard

When has staying within the confines of the law ever achieved anything? The smuggling of slaves away from their 'owners', the right to vote for women and black people, as well as civil rights in America for example.

The Government has shown itself to be committed to the interest of business and has consistently failed to meet its own lax climate targets.

I would say that, if anything, doing whatever we can to shut this plant is the sensible thing to do while lobbying is misguided.

Jon, from Bath in Avon, comment posted on web story at www.yourmedway.co.uk

Nobel Peace Prize for pioneering professor

Honour is given for his work on climate change

Award will help put area on the map

I would like to commend Medway university Professor John Morton for his part in the Nobel Peace Prize winning report



COMMENT ONLINE TOO

NOT only can you use email and letters to respond to our stories, don't forget you can comment via our website too.

Beneath most stories on the www.yourmedway.co.uk website there is the facility to leave your comments on whatever YOU thought of the online article.

To leave your remarks, simply click on the 'Add your comments' link and tell us what you think. And remember, www.yourmedway.co.uk is updated daily, bringing you the latest, breaking news from across Rochester, Chatham, Gillingham and Strood, as well as our villages.

We will include the best on these pages too - ensuring your comments reach the widest possible audience.

In addition, if you find your newsagent, supermarket or petrol station runs out of Yourmedway before you've picked up your copy, you never need to miss out.

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on the effects of climate change.

It's good to see our thriving Universities at Medway

campuses getting the recognition

they deserve for the pioneering work they do. Hopefully this will

give our national profile a boost and make people start to see how much Medway has to offer for education and the arts.

Claire Roberts,
from Rochester, by email.

Transport options need developing

Petrol and diesel consumption in the UK has dropped by a fifth in the space of a year.

Two thirds of motorists have cut their car journeys. Rail and bus use is increasing rapidly.

Current oil prices, now more than £70 a barrel, are pushing transport costs up very quickly.

For Kent, with large rural areas and costly public transport, it has never been more desirable to try to move people and freight without using oil.

People are to be congratulated on reducing their dependence on the car. However, the Government could help them to do more: If the 2p increase in fuel tax duty due this autumn were to be spent on reducing fares on public transport then even more journeys would be switched from cars to public transport.

Reducing traffic makes walking and cycling more pleasant and reduces air pollution - a serious problem in those parts of Kent in Air Quality Management Areas.

However, while we can all welcome cuts in traffic, we also have to recognise that 22 per cent of households in Kent do not have access to a car.

More than 60 per cent of those with jobs in Kent are still using a car to get to work. To help people deal with higher energy bills, local councils need to encourage general use of Green Travel Plans to help people to keep household bills for petrol and diesel down.

Kent county councillors should



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show a lead since only one of them is currently claiming more for public transport use than for car use.

Park and Rail using one of Kent's 99 stations needs to be encouraged. A higher priority must be given to extend Kent's small 490km cycle network too. While east Kent has a relatively dense cycle network, West Kent has almost no cycle tracks at all. Those present are dedicated to leisure rather than practical routes which enable people to cycle to work ie Tonbridge to Penshurst and Tenterden to Tunbridge Wells.

It is also still the case that 14 to 15 out of every 100 cars in the rush hour is ferrying children to school.

Walking and cycling are much to be preferred for developing the health of our children.

Dr Hazel Dawe,
from Kent Green Party, by email.

Wind power will not meet energy needs

The story in last week's paper quotes Gordon Brown saying wind farms will reduce energy bills.

In 2003 Government paid £500 million in subsidies to renewables. Sir John Bourne of the National Audit Office says this figure will be £1.3 billion by next year.

Other estimates say it is already £1.5 billion, which works out at £60

per annum per household. And we have been promised "a massive renewables programme".

Do renewables work? Currently we have only about 2,500MW of renewables, spread over just a few locations.

Looking at the potential, I noted wind speeds at each of the 30 locations where Met Office hourly wind speeds are published.

Anemometers are short, about 30ft, and wind turbine 300ft diameter rotors are mounted at 400ft, so I added 20 per cent to each wind speed. I then calculated what actual power would be produced with a 1,000MW wind farm at every site. I used wind-speed/power data for a Vestas 3,000KW machine, see their web site.

When writing this letter at 1pm the aggregate installation rated at 30,000MW would be producing 2,500MW. Adding an extra 10,000MW wind installation would push up output by 800MW.

Our electricity demand, (National Grid web site) is 41,000MW. Thus we would need to run an extra 27,500MW of fossil-burning plants to replace wind turbine failings.

Meanwhile, our nuclear stations deliver a long term average 90 per

Landscape feels wind of change on turbines

WIND farms are an important part of the future of power generation and will help reduce energy bills, according to the National Grid.

But it is the threat of the disruption of wind turbines with offshore wind farms that is the real concern.

cent of their full power. If we want to build another 10,000MW for extra security we can expect very near 10,000MW.

The limitations of renewables lie in the weather, tilt of the Earth's axis, rotation, orbit round the sun, and the position of the moon, factors not amenable to development.

Bill Hyde, DFH, C. Eng, Fellow IET,
from Offham, by email.

Have a heart, give clothes to charity

British Heart Foundation (BHF) shops are urgently appealing to people to search through their wardrobes and scour their homes for any unwanted, good quality clothing, books, DVDs, CDs and bric-a-brac – all of which will help the charity fight heart disease, the UK's single biggest killer.

Last year BHF shops raised more than £14 million for the nation's heart charity, helping thousands across the county. If each household spent just half an hour clearing out their wardrobes and donating to their nearest BHF shop, they would be helping to save lives, it's as simple as that.

To find your nearest BHF shop please call 0844 412 5000.

Ken Blair,
BHF shops chief executive, by email.

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Best showcase for our county



COME IN: Among the events at the county show will be the popular tractor parade and the shire horses, which will be demonstrating timber extraction, in the forestry section

PEOPLE from across the county will be flocking to Detling this weekend for the annual Kent County Show.

With a fantastic array of attractions for all the family, the show is the highlight of the year for many visitors and a great chance to find out more about our county.

From prize-winning livestock to the Garden of England's delicious produce, there will be much to admire at this year's show.

The rings will host a lengthy programme of entertainment such as show-jumping, dog demonstrations, ferret-racing, classic vehicles, competitions and much, much more.

The Band of the Corps of Royal Engineers will provide live music in the main arena over the three days, while the Dancing Diggers will show off their amazing moves in an awe-inspiring sequenced dance.

Visitors can learn more about county life in Kent in the larger

countryside area, which will feature ferrets, birds of prey, otters, hounds and gun dogs. Discover the modern methods of timber extraction, along with traditional crafts skills in the forestry section.

Find out where your food comes from and why farming matters in the agricultural zone and see countless examples of Kent's impressive livestock as they are paraded in the rings.

The Young Farmers Club of Kent will be flying the flag for the next generation, displaying animals of all sizes, from cattle to rabbits, and winners will be rewarded in the Grand Awards Ceremony on Sunday.

There will also be fun classes such as fancy-dress, round-bale pushing, a mock stock auction and the It's A Knockout competition.

The Spirit of Kent Spitfire is back by popular demand to give displays on all three days, demonstrating the invaluable skill that made the planes unbeatable in the Second World War.

Admire the floral displays at the flower show and find out how to re-

create the stunning looks at home with the arranging demonstrations. There will be plenty of opportunities to stock up on mouth-watering produce in the food and drink area.

Householders can learn how to live in a more eco-friendly way in the new ecovillage, which showcases the best in environmental and sustainable living in Kent.

There will be lots of fun ways for children to learn about conservation, while their parents can find out how to reduce household costs and help to protect the planet.

With so much to see and do, the Kent County Show is an event not to be missed.

The show will be open from 8am to 6pm. Tickets cost £17/£12 for adults, £7.50 for children aged five to 15 and £43 for families of two adults and two children.

For more information, visit you can www.kentshowground.co.uk.

KENT COUNTY SHOW

Friday to Sunday, July 11-13
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SHANE HAMPSHIRE

Sunday, July 13
Woodville Halls Theatre,
Gravesend

CHARISMATIC local singer Shane Hampshire will make the night go with a swing when he performs at Woodville Halls.

Aged just 20, Hampshire is an acclaimed singer who takes audiences on a musical journey from the timeless songs of Sinatra to the modern sound of Michael Bublé.

He is a Bublé tribute artist and late last year he was asked to record a version of the Canadian crooner's song Home for the compilation album You Raise Me Up 2008. His track appears alongside songs by artists such as Elton John, Michael Ball, Ronan Keating and Eva Cassidy.

Inspired by his older sister Joanne, Hampshire followed her into the school choir and then the school musical. He joined a stage school which led to performances at the



London Palladium and the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane. Now a professional singer specialising in swing music, it looks like Hampshire has a big future ahead of him.

Joining him will be the Ben Beddoes Big Band and the Liz Burville Dancers. The show starts at 6pm and tickets cost £12.50/£10.50. To book call the box office on 01474 337774.

MEDWAY LEISURE

Liven up your evening with the sounds of swing

ENJOY an evening of live jazz swing in the company of the Donn Barcott Big Band.

The Sound of Seven will also be appearing, with John Hockney on vibes, at the concert tomorrow night. Fans can enjoy the music at the 442 Sports & Social Club in Featherby Road, Gillingham. Doors open at 7.15pm and the event will finish at 11pm.

Tickets cost £6 including snacks. For more information call the jazz line on 01634 405037.

Aspiring rock stars should go on stage

YOUNG bands are being offered the chance to experience the big stage at Rochester Castle Gardens.

The same stage used by Jools Holland and Status Quo will be available for use by youth diversion project Training Them Live on Sunday, July 20. Aspiring rock stars can experience the same lighting, sound and big screen equipment used by the professionals.

Musicians must be aged between 11 and 18 and live in Medway. For more details and to apply visit www.trainingthemlive.co.uk or call Greenacre School on 01634 861593 extension 240.

It ain't heavy - it's just an electric experience

FANS of heavy rock and Jimi Hendrix should enjoy the next gig by Electric Experience.

The rock band will be performing at the Alexandra Hotel in Railway Street, Chatham, on Sunday. The gig will start at 5pm and is expected to finish at 7pm.

For more details about the venue call the Alexandra Hotel on 01634 830545.

Celebrate all things rock on Friday night

MORE top bands will be performing at the Beacon Court Tavern in Gillingham this Friday.

Rock of Ages presents The Latch, Directions and Dead Against The Rest in a celebration of all things rock. Tickets cost £5.

To find out more about all gigs and events at the Canterbury Street pub, go to www.beaconcourttavern.co.uk.

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FOLK AT THE BROOK

Thursday, July 17
Brook Theatre, Chatham

TWO of the most accomplished guitar players on the folk scene will be appearing together for Folk at the Brook.

Tim Edey from Broadstairs plays more than ten instruments including melodeon, accordion, guitar, banjo, piano and mandolin. His incredible technical ability and charisma have made him highly in-demand as a session musician, while he also plays in Scottish superstar band Session A9 and in a trio with Brendan Power and Lucy Randall. He also performs with Kerry Irish music legend Seamus Begley and Manchester Irish duo,

Michael McGoldrick and Dezi Donnelly. Jon Sanders takes advantage of the freedom within the contemporary acoustic music scene to infuse his playing with exciting elements of other genres, from jazz and funk to gaelic.

He divides his time between Dingle in Ireland and Auckland in New Zealand, spending six months of each year on tour. Sanders has co-produced some of the best Irish traditional artists and is now a part of improvised groove-based project Pacific Bespoke.

The concert starts at 8pm and tickets cost £10. To book call the box office on 01634 338338 or visit the website at www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.

MIA DOLAN

Friday, July 11
Hazlitt Theatre, Maidstone

ONE of the UK's top psychics Mia Dolan will be demonstrating her skills this week.

The Sheppey-born medium is the star of ITV's Most Haunted and her live shows have become very popular. From private readings and 'ghost busting', she gives psychic demonstrations in front of hundreds of people.

Dolan was about 12 when she spotted her first ghost, a nun at Minster Abbey. At the age of 17 she is reported to have seen a child falling down a stairwell in a block of flats, only to discover that a child had died that way a few years earlier.

She started giving readings at the age of 20 and has since written three books. When her brother was killed in a pub fight on his 25th birthday and she lost her 18-year-old son Shane in a fall in 1997, Dolan claimed to have foreseen both terrible events.

The show starts at 7.30pm and tickets cost £18.50. To book call the box office on 01622 758611 or go to www.hazlittartscentre.co.uk.



yourmedwaymusic

Sowing the seeds of success on the farm



RUSTIC CHARM: Art Brut play Lounge on the Farm on Friday. The festival offers a varied bill ranging from local heroes to heavy hitters

THE festival-goer's nightmares include torrential downpours of Biblical proportions, sold-out beer stalls and three-day-old Portaloos.

But the thing that keeps me awake at night on the eve of a three-dayer is the dreaded line-up clash.

Every year, festival organisers conspire to scatter my favourite bands and artists across various stages and give them the same time slot.

The result is that I usually see about a third of the acts I wanted to. And to make matters worse, I'm so blinded by rage that I can't enjoy

■ BY SIMON ROBINSON

these performances anyway. Which brings me on to this weekend's wondrous Lounge on the Farm festival at Merton Farm, near Canterbury.

Barring delays, overruns and acts of God, none of the best up-and-coming bands or established acts I want to see overlap, allowing me to skip merrily from tent to marquee to cow shed without missing a note.

Saturday, for example, will see me take in Johnny Foreigner at the Sheep Dip from 6pm, Findlay Brown at Farm Folk an hour later and Mystery Jets in the Cow Shed at 9pm. Joy of

joys. LOTF's organisers seem to share my enthusiasm. A spokesman said: "Kent's coolest festival returns for its third outing this weekend and it's even bigger and bolder than before with increased capacity and new stages."

"Last year's event established LOTF as a heavyweight festival with a uniquely local twist and 2008 is set to take the extravaganza to the next level. Set in the idyllic surrounds of Merton Farm, LOTF's rustic charms will play host to 160 bands spread across six stages, featuring everyone from local heroes and cutting edge acts to renowned heavy hitters."

Tickets are still on sale. Visit www.loungeonthe-farm.co.uk.

Simon's ones to watch:

FRIDAY

Art Brut
Black Kids
Lightspeed Champion
Glam Chops
The Lovedays

SATURDAY

New York Dolls
Mystery Jets
Those Dancing Days
Kitty, Daisy and Lewis
Onlookers

SUNDAY

The Coral
The Bees
Lupen Crook and the Murderbirds
What Would Jesus Drive
Polar Bear

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Full screen

HATS ENTERTAINMENT: Jon Woode at Sellindge Music Festival



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SERENADE: Belleville play the Orange Street Music Club



Full screen

ETHEREAL: Lucy Kitt is our featured artist on The Ether

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Lille & Euralille	24 Jul	£30
Chessington World of Adventures	27 Jul & 14 Aug	£35
Thorpe Park	29 Jul	£39
Kennett & Avon Horse Drawn Barge	6 Aug	£32
Hatfield House & Gardens	7 Aug	£29
Disneyland Resort Paris	9&23 Aug	£59
Legoland	9 Aug	£39
Whipsnade Zoo	10 Aug	£34
Sandringham Estate	12 Aug	£29
Mystery Day Trip	12 Aug	£19
Ostend, Belgium	13 Aug	£25
Palace of Westminster & Lunch Cruise	14 Aug	£52
Alton Towers	16 Aug	£45
Bruges or Sluis	17 Aug	£30
Cruise - Windsor return with Cream Tea	19 Aug	£33
Wisley Gardens Flower Show	21 Aug	£27
Ghent, Belgium	22 Aug	£30
Isle of Wight Explorer	23 Aug	£39
London Eye, Carvery & River Cruise	24 Aug	£59
De Panne, Belgium - <i>bank holiday</i>	25 Aug	£25
George Michael - <i>bank holiday</i>	25 Aug	£85
Cadbury World	26 Aug	£34
Kew Gardens	27 Aug	£31
Boulogne or Le Touquet, France	27 Aug	£25
Tutankhamun - <i>last chance!</i>	30 Aug	£37
Barry Manilow	4 Dec	£75



£219pp*

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A major part of Blackpool's attraction since 1879, the Illuminations are considered to be the greatest free light show on earth. During your stay why not take a spin in the ballroom housed in the Tower, visit the beach or try lady luck in one of the many amusement arcades. 4* Hotel (HB) overlooking the beach & promenade, includes night tour of the lights.



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Treat yourself & do your Xmas shopping at the same time - what a great combination! The markets not only offer a wide array of gifts, usually all sold from pretty little wooden stalls, but traditional fayre too. Some towns have ice rinks and other special seasonal attractions. Includes: hotel (BB), 1 full & 1 half day excursions.

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* Warners Breaks - picture shown is Littlecote House - 29 Sept. *FB applies to stay at hotel only. Light lunch in cafe. - Applies to 20 Oct & 8 Dec.

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The kids are alright this summer

All you young dudes



DEBENHAMS

J by Jasper Conran trousers and polo shirt, price £18

WOOLWORTHS

Swim trunks, priced from £3

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NEXT

Sandals, price £8



WOOLWORTHS

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MATALAN

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DEBENHAMS

Butterfly by Matthew Williamson smock dress, price £14-£16



ADAMS KIDS

Babies' legionnaires hat, price £5

ADAMS KIDS

Girls' sunglasses, price £5

MEDWAY SHOPPING

Feel complete beauty with a trip to the salon

THE Allen and Walden professional training partnership is celebrating its second successful year as a beauty and holistic therapy centre.

Founded by former North West Kent College lecturers Debbie Allen and Jennifer Walden it allows students to fit in training around existing commitments.

Situated near Hempstead Valley Shopping Centre in Gillingham the training facility is combined with a luxury salon, also run by the partnership, offering treatments including allergy testing and nutritional advice.

Anniversary event is big news for shoppers

CLOTHES store Republic will be throwing a birthday weekend event at Fremlin Walk.

From Friday to Sunday shoppers can enjoy an in-store DJ, prize giveaways and special offers.

Bargains can also be found at The Body Shop, which has started its summer sale with a skincare offer – buy more than two products and save £5. Waterstone's will also be promoting the Richard and Judy summer selection, with special offers on selected titles.

More details are available at www.fremlinwalk.co.uk.

Designer scent smells like a great new buy

CALVIN Klein's new his and her fragrances are now available at Boots.

CKIN2U 2Go for her can be found for £12.50 for 20ml, as well as CKIN2U 2Go for him at the same price at stores across Medway.

Described as "fresh but warm – a tension that creates sexiness", Calvin Klein's new fragrance is an essential purchase for the summer months.

For details see www.boots.com.

Uniform offer is a cheap way to keep them smart

FOR a limited time only Marks and Spencer are offering three for two mix and match on selected schoolwear.

Shirts and blouses are available priced from around £5, and skirts, trousers and shorts can be found in a range of school colours from £7. Jumpers and cardigans are also available from around £7 at the Chatham High Street, Dockside Outlet and Hempstead Valley stores.

Visit www.marksandspencer.com to see the range and for more details.

Author most fab to sign books for adoring fans

COMEDIAN Julian Clary will be making an appearance at Bluewater tomorrow, Thursday, to promote his new book.

The TV personality's debut novel Murder Most Fab tells the story of Johnny Debonair, a celebrity whose success came at a macabre price. He will also be signing copies of his recent autobiography A Young Man's Passage.

Clary will be at Waterstone's at 6pm. For more details call the store on 01322 624831.

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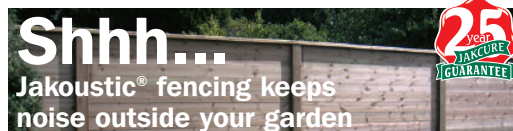
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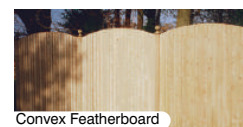
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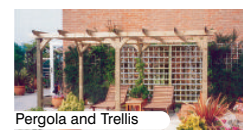
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YOUR TV REVIEW

THE BILL
ITV1, 8pm, Wednesday & Thursday

BY TOM BETTS

THERE was a time when life on the beat in Sun Hill made a refreshing change from the comings and goings of soap land.

You could always rely on cop drama The Bill for a good bit of honest to goodness crook catching with the emphasis on the police work and police station politics rather than the constant, who's sleeping with who nature of the likes of EastEnders and Coronation Street.

While the storylines could sometimes be a bit tame – I remember a lot of episodes about shoplifting on council estates – on the whole it was fairly harmless stuff and was a worthy addition to the ITV schedules.

These days, however, the show seems little more than a place where old soap actors and actresses go to die, or at least earn a steady pay-cheque before vanishing altogether from our screens.

I know everyone has to earn a living, but my enjoyment of the programme has been severely dented since this almost Dalek-like invasion reached its current heights.

Kathy, from EastEnders, is now catching the villains instead of serving the chip butties in Albert Square and it just doesn't feel right.

I tuned in the other day and was amazed just how many of the former soapstars are cropping up on the beat.

As well as Kathy, we have ex-Walford residents Ruby (who barely looks old enough for secondary school, let alone the police force) and Irene, who, in an opposite manner, looks about ready for the old people's home.

Meanwhile Becca, from Hollyoaks, is



CHANGING SIDES: Actress Roberta Taylor is just one of many ex soapstars now in The Bill

also getting a piece of the pie, though you'd have thought she'd have learnt her lesson after sleeping with her students.

Even those who used to be in Neighbours are getting a look in, not to mention Todd Carty who had an affair with his own mum not so long ago (talk about giving a new meaning to copping off) before heading off elsewhere.

The soapstars' presence in the fictional London borough does little to enhance what's actually going on and you have to reach a conclusion that it's either lazy or opportunistic casting to net a few viewers the easy way.

It's a shame really, as some of the actors who aren't such familiar faces pull off most of the good work here, but seem to get little of the plaudits as they are overshadowed by bigger 'name' actors.

Oh for the days of faithful Sergeant Bob Crier!

YOUR WEEK'S HOROSCOPE

BY RUSSELL GRANT



AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19)

UNEVEN finances could throw your romantic life into havoc. You need to find a way to ride out the lean times together. Remember, your bank account isn't a reflection of your self-worth. When you don't have the money you can always find creative, inexpensive ways to have fun.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aquarius** 09067-531762



TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21)

DON'T be pressured into attending expensive social events. Your creativity will be rewarded at work. Putting a glamorous touch on a boring product will get a great reception. Accept all compliments graciously. You may discover you know less about a subject than you thought.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Taurus** 09067-531753



LEO (Jul 24-Aug 23)

AN unexpected expense could force you to put a dream project on hold. It may be necessary to come up with some creative financing. Getting a loan or grant may be a way around the problem. Falling in love with a spiritually-minded person is a distinct possibility.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Leo** 09067-531756



SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22)

DISCUSSING money could prove disastrous. The only way to teach someone responsibility is to have them pay for creature comforts out of their own pocket or they'll continue to take your resources for granted. If you're single you're likely to meet someone special this week.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Scorpio** 09067-531759



PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20)

It's hard to think about a family problem logically. A certain relative who has always pushed your buttons could do it again. You hate falling victim to their manipulations. Retreat to a quiet corner when anger threatens to overtake you. Playing with a child can be therapeutic, too.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Pisces** 09067-531763



GEMINI (May 22-Jun 22)

IT may feel as if you can't satisfy your boss this week. It's probably best to keep suggestions to a minimum. You may get more satisfaction from a spiritual endeavour. A stand-off with a partner could bring some unexpected results. Stop letting other people make decisions for you.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Gemini** 09067-531754



VIRGO (Aug 24-Sep 23)

A **CLOSE** partnership is showing signs of strain. It's become increasingly difficult to talk rationally with your friend. Instead of talking, try listening instead. This will make you more compassionate. This would be a great week to take a platonic relationship to the next level.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Virgo** 09067-531757



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 22)

DISRUPTIONS to your home life could cause problems. It's hard to be pleasant when your surroundings are chaotic. Trying to buy someone's affection could backfire. The only thing that will win this person's heart will be giving them your full and undivided attention.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Sagittarius** 09067-531760



ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 20)

BEWARE of saying the first thing that comes into your head when talking to workmates. Some people bring out your worst instincts so stick to everyday subjects like the weather. You've got to fulfil your commitments to your employer, or your reputation will suffer.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Aries** 09067-531752



CANCER (Jun 23-Jul 23)

BEWARE of putting your faith in a so-called expert. This person is a lot more unstable than they appear. Getting lost in your lover's arms will be a welcome break from reality. If you're single, it may be because you're unwilling to change your ways for the sake of a relationship.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Cancer** 09067-531755



LIBRA (Sep 24-Oct 23)

TRYING to take a colleague under your wing may be an exercise in futility. This person is intent on doing things their way, even if it wastes time, money, and energy. It's nice to be appreciated. An unusual work assignment allows you to showcase your artistic talent.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Libra** 09067-531758



CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20)

Don't take an irritable outburst personally. Someone could unfairly take out their anger on you. Instead of getting defensive, pour your energy into a work project instead. This isn't a good week to sign a legal document or you'll end up giving away more than you intended.

To find out more about what the stars have in store call Russell on **Capricorn** 09067-531761

Calls cost 75p per minute. Service provided by g8wave London N7

EXCLUSIVE KOS MEDIA READER OFFER

Open Golf at Royal Birkdale

The Open returns to Royal Birkdale ten years on from Mark O'Meara's victory and the emergence of a young amateur, now the top golfer in Europe, Justin Rose.

Golf's best known names including last year's victor Pádraig Harrington* will descend on Royal Birkdale, one of Britain's finest golf clubs. Having previously hosted two Ryder Cups, the Walker and Curtis Cups, the Women's British Open and, on eight occasions, the Open, Royal Birkdale is the perfect setting for the Open this summer.

The Open is golf's oldest tournament and was first held at Prestwick Golf Club in 1860 when just eight players played three rounds over a 12 hole course. Today the Championship is a top feature in the golfing calendar, attracting all the top world players competing for millions of pounds of prize money.

The Price includes:

- Two nights stay at a 3 or 4 star North West hotel
- Dinner & full English breakfast inclusive from dinner on Friday evening to breakfast on Sunday morning
- Two days admission to The Open including the final day's play
- Coach transfers from the hotel to and from the course and return

*Omega cannot be held responsible for the non-show of golfers. Prices based on two people sharing a twin/double room, single supplement applies. Operated by Omega Holidays plc ABTA V4782



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HARD

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DOWN

- 1** Throwing-spear (7)
- 2** Rabble-rouser (9)
- 3** Eagle constellation (6)
- 4** Cushion (6)
- 5** Repugnance (8)
- 6** Small particle (8)
- 7** Whole (5)
- 9** Figure-skating jump (4)
- 14** Things characteristic of USA (9)
- 15** Forced oneself on others (8)
- 16** Flatten (8)
- 17** Brolly (4)
- 19** Marsh bird (7)
- 20** Jail (6)
- 21** Touchy (6)
- 23** Plausible story (5)

HARD

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ACROSS: 1 Jaffa 4 playmate 8 Virtual reality 10 Libelous 11 Cally 12 Noah 13 Roll-call 17 Gadabout 18 Kerp 22 Miser 24 Larcenist 25 Wild-goose chase 26 Bludgeon 27 Yeam. **DOWN:** 1 Javelin 2 Firebrand 3 Aquila 4 Pillow 5 Aversion 6 Molecule 7 Total 9 Axel 14 Americana 15 Outbride 16 Bulldoze 17 Camp 19 Bittern 20 Prison 21 Tetchy 22 Spiel.

The first photograph on the left shows the exterior of the hotel, a white building with a red roof, situated on a cliff overlooking the sea. The middle photograph shows the interior of a room, featuring a large bed, a wooden headboard, and a red armchair. The third photograph on the right shows the view from the hotel, looking out over a harbor filled with many small boats and buildings.

THORLEY TAVERNS

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ON GENERAL RELEASE

KUNG FU PANDA (PG)



An animated story about a lazy, irreverent slacker panda named Po, who is the biggest fan of Kung Fu around... which doesn't exactly come in handy while working in his family's noodle shop. Unexpectedly chosen to fulfil an ancient prophecy, Po's dreams become reality when he joins the world of Kung Fu. He is further amazed to find himself studying alongside his idols, the Furious Five.

THE MIST (15)



Based on a Stephen King story, a violent storm blows in a heavy mist that envelops that favourite King locale, a village in Maine. When the electricity goes out, David Drayton and his young son Billy drive into town to buy emergency supplies and meet a few locals.

CHRONICLES OF NARNIA: PRINCE CASPIAN (PG)



The four intrepid children return to Narnia and meet an intriguing new character: Narnia's rightful heir to the throne, the young Prince Caspian, who has been forced into hiding as his uncle Miraz plots to kill him in order to place his own newborn son on the throne instead.

Popcorn with a twist

■ BY KATE WHITING

SUMMER wouldn't be the same without the obligatory action blockbusters competing for box office ratings – yet it's rare to find an Oscar-winning actress and an Oscar-nominated actor sharing top billing on one such 'popcorn' movie.

But then Hancock, starring Charlize Theron and Will Smith, is no ordinary action adventure – it's a superhero film with a difference.

"I think this will be the craziest ride an audience has ever had," says Theron with a wry smile.

"I have been in this business for 14 years and I walked out of the theatre after a screening and told my manager that this was 'original'. I do not throw that word around. I have never seen anything like this.

"We took a genre that audiences are quite familiar with and did something unique."

Hancock (Smith) is a completely flawed superhero – drunk and dishevelled, he no longer cares about anyone or anything and goes on drink-fuelled missions that usually do more harm than good.

Until, that is, he rescues PR guru Ray (Jason Bateman), who insists on transforming Hancock's public image and helping him clean up his act – against his own wife Mary's (Theron) better judgement.

"We have never seen a superhero live a life that is so uncomfortable to watch," says blonde Theron, who is bright and articulate – and on lively form when we meet.

"He is not a nice guy. He has no



ORIGINAL: Charlize Theron is an actress – but her first love was ballet dancing

social skills and you can't have a normal conversation with him," she continues.

"Here is this guy who has been doing this a long time. He is somewhat tired of the routine and so he drinks and likes to grab young girls' asses!"

"All of this was a wow to me,

because it makes a real human story. At the end of the day, we all hurt the same."

As Hancock gets to know Ray and his wife, it seems there is a strong attraction between him and Mary – and we soon discover she is hiding a dark secret.

Filming on Hancock was done

in LA – with one of the locations just two minutes down the road from where Theron lives in Hollywood.

"The crowds love it. Here we were on Hollywood Boulevard with Will Smith joking around and high-fiving people.

"He was throwing trucks around on set, so if you were a tourist there that week, you really lucked out."

South African-born Theron grew up an only child and went to boarding school in Johannesburg. At 16, she travelled to Italy and then New York on modelling contracts before training in the States as a ballet dancer – her first love.

She only turned to acting after a knee injury stopped her dancing – landing roles in films like The Devil's Advocate and Cider House Rules in the mid-90s.

It was as an unglified serial killer in 2003's Monster that she won massive critical acclaim – and an Oscar for Best Actress.

She's set to return to drama in her next two projects, The Burning Plain and The Road, before reprising her role in the follow-up to The Italian Job, the ironically titled The Brazilian Job.

HANCOCK
Certificate 12A

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Golf with a touch of scandal

BY DERIC HENDERSON

GOLFERS only rarely get closer to heaven than the 18th hole at The Marbella Club Golf Resort, surely the most spectacular final hole on the Costa del Sol?

With a high, elevated tee overlooking a deep gully and the Straits of Gibraltar hazy in the far distance, this par-5 cries out for the drive of a lifetime.

It's a terrific course in the Sierra mountains, and it's just myself and a club professional with an unfortunate surname who happily blasts the ball a country mile.

Rod Bastard, 34, let rip with his 3-wood and his shot soared into the cloudless Mediterranean sky, before dropping and bouncing softly 300 yards up the fairway.

"Right," he said motioning with his arms. "Nice and slow with the back swing, and keep the head down..."

He is ribbed mercilessly for his name, but retains a fine sense of humour.

"I must be the only golfer on the Costa del Sol who is on first name terms with everybody," he laughs as he poured the coffee on the clubhouse veranda.

The course, opened in 1999, easily compares with the best in this part of Spain, and that includes San Roque (Old), Sotogrande, the over-rated Valderrama, Los Naranjos, and Santana near Fuengirola.

Once darkness falls, bars and restaurants in this chic resort quickly fill up with the heavy aromas of Chanel and Lancome, plus a whiff of scandal and corruption.

But then Marbella wouldn't be Marbella without a touch of sleaze. Though it may not have the pull it once commanded when foreign holidays were beyond the reach of many, the city and neighbouring Puerto Banus, crammed with yachts, remain a great location.

Old Marbella with its narrow lanes of boutiques and gift shops off Orange Tree Plaza is especially good.

The Marbella Club and Spa Resort, a good half-hour walk along the seafront, is seriously upmarket and makes no apologies for reminding visitors of its enigmatic creator.

Marbella was hardly more than a fishing village by the time World War Two ended, when a flash German prince, the wonderfully named Prince Alfonso de Hohenlohe-Langenburg, arrived to make his fortune.

In 1947, he pulled up in his Rolls Royce Phantom for a picnic, and



BEAUTIFUL: The view from the Marbella Club Golf Resort with Gibraltar in the distance

intoxicated by the beauty of the place, bought an old vineyard and built 16 rooms as an aristocratic wayside inn.

It went on to become a much sought-after hideaway for Europe's jet set, Hollywood's finest, and even British royalty.

The open air Grill Restaurant on the terrace, lit by hundreds of candles

melted around the branches of olive trees, was the setting for a gastronomic experience like no other.

Lamb cooked to perfection and presented beautifully; a fine bottle - or two - of Rioja, and attended by a team of waiters who went about their business with a minimum of fuss.

FACT FILE: SPAIN

Time difference	UK + 1 hour
Capital	Madrid
Population	45.2million
Currency	Euro (1.2 to £1 approx)
Religion	Christian
Climate	Mediterranean
Language	Spanish

Holiday details

Deric Henderson was a guest of The Marbella Club, on Spain's Costa del Sol, where double deluxe rooms start around £200 per night plus VAT, two sharing.

Reservations: 0034 95282 2211 and www.marbellaclub.com

Gold Unlimited package starts from £290 per night plus VAT for a minimum three-night stay, includes accommodation in a double executive room, champagne buffet breakfast and golf. Deric flew easyJet to Malaga from Belfast. easyJet flights are also available from Bristol, East Midlands, Glasgow, Liverpool, Gatwick, Newcastle, Luton and Stansted from £299 one-way, returns from £51.98 (incl. taxes). Reservations: www.easyJet.com.



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WOMEN'S SPOTLIGHT

FANCY GOING DUTCH?

Tall, blonde half-Dutch woman, 27, love swimming, power-walking and music, festivals! Looking for a lovely man with GSOH, for something special! Box 833230

SHUGGLE UP

Tall, attractive, good hearted African female, 28yr old, enjoys films, a good food and cuddles, WLTW a white male for friendship and romance. Box 441654

PILLION DOLLAR BABE!

Slim lady, 31, shoulder-length dark hair, hazel eyes, loves having fun and meeting new people. Mark, the pub owner, please call and leave contact details! Box 433131

FUN-LOVING

Attractive female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTW intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734

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I'LL BE SEEING YOU

I'm a social, caring and sensual woman, 33, who enjoys having fun, conversation, arts, music and eating out, seeking a like-minded, upbeat man. Box 899177

JAZZ FUSION

Single, fun, hard-working, kind and caring, 32, brown hair/eyes, nice smile, WLTW similar for let's see how it goes. Box 901072

IN THE COUNTRY

Are you the one? I'm 33, single, 5'12, pure country lass from farming background, seeking my lovely country man to make me forever happy. Box 892285

TAKE ME OUT

Single Mum, 32, cuddly larger lady, 5'10, dark brown hair, seeking someone to have fun, a dance, some drinks, meals and more with. Box 438941

SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE

Bubbly, genuine, honest, caring Mum of 1, 34, dark hair, blue eyes, loves nights in/out, seeking male, 30-40, with GSOH, for love and all. Box 440782

R U THE 1?

Outgoing, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5'10, brown hair/eyes, Tonbridge, seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 453107

ANIMAL MAGIC!

Single, kind, caring animal lover, 34, from Kent, likes cooking, cinema, theatre, most music, seeks non-smoking male, 34-38, for LTR. Box 440782

ROMANCE IS ALIVE

Divorced, lively mum, 35, GSOH, I enjoy time with my family and friends, cinema, good food, beach walks, seeks male for honesty, love and romance. Box 813930

MADE FOR EACH OTHER?

Mum of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male, 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693

MEND A BROKEN HEART

Single mum of three, 37, fun-loving, great to be around, been hurt in the past, heart has been broken and needs mending. Box 908053

SEIZE THE DAY

Loving female, 36, 5'14, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666

THE GENTLE LADY

Easygoing female with GSOH, 36, enjoys many things - going out, staying in, seeking a nice, genuine guy for lots of love and laughter. Box 437913

FEATHERED FRIENDS...

Large, bubbly lady, 37, 5'8", like country walks, seaside, birdwatching, all music, looking for that special male for good times. Box 435619

SHOW ME HEAVEN

African female, 28yr old, enjoys swimming, films and bird watching. Fairly new to the area. Wltm a male for friendship and maybe romance. Box 441608

TAKE A CHANCE

Caring, loving, attractive female, 41, N/S, size 12, enjoys keeping fit, most things, seeks romantic, passionate, tall, good looking male, 35-42, for LTR. Box 807291

THIS STATE OF INDEPENDENCE

Hard-working female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent, love to laugh, socialising, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156

ON A PLATE

Caring, honest 46yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead. Likes cinema, theatre, walks, WLTW male for fun/friendship. Box 895828

BLACK MAGIC

Loving black female, 49yr old, slim, enjoys cooking, dancing and socialising, WLTW gentleman for a romantic relationship. Box 441839

ARE YOU LOVING & CARING?

Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5'15, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating out, cosy nights, good company. Box 434089

HERE WE GO

Young female, 50, 5'15, slim, bubbly, outgoing, GSOH, loves animals, walks, eating out, nights in with wine, seeks genuine male 45-55 for friendship & more. Box 439067

ENTERTAIN ME

49yo female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular wining, dining, loving and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854

READ ALL ABOUT IT

Petite, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, WLTW a male to share things with. Box 429682

SANDY SEEKS DANNY

Slim, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no ties, loves socialising, eating out etc, GSOH, seeking trustworthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 440100

ALL THIS AND MORE

Attractive female, 45, slim-medium build, 5'10, big brown eyes, brown hair, caring, loving, honest, seeking LTR with an honest, caring male to enjoy life with. Box 439367

LET'S TAKE A RIDE

Hi, I'm Laura, 47, friendly, honest, love motor-biking, WLTW gentleman interested in bikes, walks, holidays, the countryside, museums, castles, and perhaps love too! Box 440397

HAPPY GO LUCKY

Sincere, happy woman, with GSOH, I'm 51, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTW similar guy. Box 895019

HUNK SOUGHT

Marlene, 48, blonde, medium build, likes 4x4s, the gym, quad-biking, a glass of wine, cinema, rugby/soccer/cricket, WLTW sincere youngish guy for friendship/companionship and who knows. Box 894117

LOVE IS ALL AROUND

Young-looking 40yr old female, 5'15, long hair, single mum, GSOH, WLTW caring, honest, fun-loving male, for relationship. Box 414161

GET IT TOGETHER

Kind, caring, spiritual lady, 39, 5'4", average build, hazel puppy-dog eyes, brown hair, looking for genuine, honest guy, non-smoker, friendship first. Box 899694

ACTIVE ANGEL

Hi, I'm a fun-loving woman early 40, 5'1", curvy, enjoy eating out and cooking to walking, looking for man for happiness. Box 894398

MAYBE I'M AMAZED

Young-looking/active curvy woman, 41, looking for someone special, for nights out/in. Hopefully leading to something amazing in the long term. Box 746781

LIFE IS FOR LIVING!

Genuine, outgoing single mum, 49yr old, enjoys swimming, the outdoors and travelling, WLTW male to travel and enjoy life with. Take the plunge! Box 891011

LAUGHTER, THE BEST MEDICINE

Help me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640

ALL THAT I NEED

Young-looking, slim, attractive female, 48, fun-loving and outgoing, N/S, GSOH, love music, holidays, going out and staying in, seeks similar man, 42-50. Aylesford. Box 428833

BLACK MAGIC

Loving black female, 49yr old, slim, enjoys cooking, dancing and socialising, WLTW gentleman for a romantic relationship. Box 441839

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Young 48 year old, loving, caring, very bubbly, 5'15, medium build, blonde, blue eyes, likes clubs, cinema, eating out, cosy nights, good company. Box 434089

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LOVELY LADY...

53, fit, healthy, single now for nine years and can't find the right man! If you enjoy sport and live music let's chat! Box 923305

IN MY SIGHTS

Lovely, curvaceous lady, 57yr old, enjoys visual arts, travel, WLTW genuine male, 50-60 for friendship/romance. Box 441382

FRIENDS FIRST

Sincere female, 57, caring, separated, I enjoy nights in/out, reading, walking, various activities, just separated, looking for a friend, then see from there! Box 437420

SAVING ALL MY LOVE

Young, 58yr old modern female widow, slim, smoker, enjoys nights in/out, socialising, seeking honest, reliable man for friendship, love, affection and TLC. Box 920739

GENUINE LOVER & FRIEND

Genuine lady, 65yr old, 5'4, enjoys walking, gardening and eating out, lots of life to give, WLTW a sincere gentleman for a LTR. Box 442065

MEETING OF GREAT MINDS

Attractive lady, 65, enjoys life, music, dining out, walking, the countryside, gardening, seeking professional home-owning gent under 70 for a chat. Box 441885

LOVE DO

Down to earth, attractive single dad, 34, 5'17, shaved head, enjoys swimming, eating out, cinema, WLTW a similar female for a LTR. Gillingham. Box 442070

BRING BACK THE SPARK

Single male, 36 years old, looking for an engaging, independent lady for fun and more. Box 442014

REAL MAN

Honest, decent, caring male, 37, blonde, 6ft, enjoys walks, cinema, nights in/out, family life, WLTW like-minded, genuine female. Sarah, please call again, leave contact details! Box 430440

QUALITY TIME

Laid-back, sincere male, 38, 5'11, fair hair green eyes, enjoys travelling, football, family time, seeking easygoing, fun-loving Box 441389

HI LADIES

I'm 38, 5'11, average build, like pubs, restaurants, cinema, quiet nights in with chocs and DVDs, seeking kind, happy female with WLTW for honest relationship. Box 442056

JOYPAD

Laid-back creative gent, 38, 5'8, medium build, short brown hair, like films, DVDs, cinema, pubbing, computer games, keeping fit, WLTW similar female for relationship. Box 441920

R U A ME?

Down-to-earth, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917

FAST BIKES & LOVE OF HORSES

39, single, keen on horses and horses would like to meet pretty, down to earth girl who likes a relaxed, easygoing life. Box 901648

LOVE TODAY

True and honest gentleman, 40, young-looking, fit, attractive, healthy, enjoys outdoor pursuits, travel, many interests, WLTW the one lady to be his soulmate forever. Box 441836

DO WE FIT TOGETHER?

Frank, 41, a carpenter, 6'11, average build, young-looking, WLTW lady for friendship evenings out, maybe more. Recently quit smoking. Box 439630

SIMON SAYS...

Caring single dad, 41, 5'10", average build, young-looking, WLTW lady for friendship evenings out, maybe more. Recently quit smoking. Box 439630

MINDS HIS OWN BUSINESS!

Attractive guy, nice to be with, laid-back, I'm 41, 5'8, medium/stokey build, brown hair, Own business/home, enjoys walks, pubs, wine, restaurants, cinema. Box 430286

PURE AND SIMPLE

Nice, caring male, 26, 6'13, dark hair, blue eyes, enjoys cycling, boxing, arts and craft, WLTW a female who's full of giggles for a happy relationship. Box 441925

OPEN ARMS

Confident male, 42, 5'10", nice build, single dad, own home, loves cooking, going out, sports, WLTW someone similar to me. Maidstone. Box 441141

ALL THE GOOD MEN GO TO THE MOT

Easygoing, honest male, 43, 5'10, likes to enjoy life, socialise, travel, go on holidays, walks, seeking similar female with honesty, GSOH, for loving times. Box 441346

HOW CAN YOU RESIST?

Down-to-earth loveable guy, 30, 5'8, stocky, blonde hair/blue eyes, likes the finer things in life, going out, eating in, pubs, WLTW genuine girl for LTR. Box 441947

HOW CAN YOU RESIST?

Down-to-earth loveable guy, 30, 5'8, stocky, blonde hair/blue eyes, likes the finer things in life, going out, eating in, pubs, WLTW genuine girl for LTR. Box 441949

GET IN TOUCH!

Heartsick female, separated, 35, 6'12, brown hair/eyes, slim, seeking female to move on with & enjoy cinema, eating out, socialising, clubs and more. Box 441912

MADE TO ORDER

Good-looking, very fit male, 35, 5'10, caring, loving, seeking someone similar 18-35, enjoying cooking, gardening, cinema, music and more. Box 441995

WARM HEARTS

Laughing-loving male, 35, medium build, 5'11, short brown hair, brown eyes, enjoys pubs, clubs, cinema, days out, WLTW female for cosy nights in and more. Box 442014

LOVE DO

Down to earth, attractive single dad, 34, 5'17, shaved head, enjoys swimming, eating out, cinema, WLTW a similar female for a LTR. Gillingham. Box 442070

BRING BACK THE SPARK

Single male, 36 years old, looking for an engaging, independent lady for fun and more. Box 442014

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R U A ME?

PROPERTY NEWS

Simple steps to help cut bills

FAMILIES across the county could cut their fuel bills by £240 a year by investing just £100 on making their homes more environmentally friendly, according to a new guide.

Save Money, Help the Planet, produced by the National Housing Federation, reveals how households can save and contribute to a greener society.

Investing £8.99 in a clothes horse instead of using a spin-cycle on a washing machine could cut the electricity bill by £70 per year.

And for under £12, a household can fix a sheet of tin foil behind radiators – saving £20 from their annual energy bill and cut emissions by 80kg per year.

Six energy-saving lightbulbs will cost £7.74 – but within a year will have produced savings of £42, and cut a household's emissions by 70kg.

Switching off electrical goods at the mains instead of using 'standby' can save £28 per year.

Even closing the curtains when it gets dark can trim £20 from a heating bill.

The federation's south east manager, Warren Finney, said: "At a time when many people are struggling to pay their bills, and climate change is a worry, it makes sense to take a few simple steps to cut their bills and their emissions."

Owners look to cash in on improvements

DESPITE cutbacks in other areas of spending, 57 per cent of UK homeowners have undertaken home improvements in the past six months or plan to complete them in the next 12 months, according to a survey from home insurer LV=.

This is for a variety of reasons from looking to future sales to making the best of what is around at the moment.

Some 15 per cent said they have made or are making improvements in an expectation of making money when the housing market recovers.

A further 14 per cent admit to improving their home because moving isn't affordable, while six per cent attribute their investment in home improvements to a concern about the credit crunch.

Emma Holyer, spokesperson for LV= said: "Despite the challenging housing market and lack of affordable mortgages, we are still a nation obsessed with our homes and what money we can make on them."

Landlords' faith in the market remains strong

Buy-to-let investors in it for the long term

BY NICK AMES

LANDLORDS who buy property to let are increasingly resolved to maintaining their portfolios instead of selling them off.

And, according to the Association of Residential Letting Agencies (ARLA), just 1.3 per cent of landlords, who represent the biggest spenders in recent months, expect to have to sell up because of the market conditions.

Experts say this shows those who have a long-term investment in the value of property are keeping faith that the market will improve.

The ARLA review shows a rate of return on investment from the cash purchase of investment property of around 10.82 per cent.

Investment landlords report yet again that they expect to hold their residential property investments for the best part of two decades, up to an average age of 17.2 years.

This is an increase from 16.7 years in the previous quarter.

Ian Potter, ARLA's head of operations, said: "Buy-to-let landlords are confirmed as prudent investors for the long term."

"These investors understand the realities of the investment market they have chosen. This understanding would appear to be far greater than the understanding shown by investors in many other markets and is proving to be a bonus for the nation's housing problems. There is no one else investing in residential housing at the moment."

ARLA's latest figures show that in the search for a buy-to-let mortgage lender, personal research ranks highest among investors.

This is followed by more than half going for previous experience of their lender, while slightly less than half look for a lender that is well established in the market.

When choosing a mortgage product, the initial interest rate ranks as the most important factor, followed by the true cost of the mortgage and then rental calculation.

A total of 60 per cent prefer to arrange buy-to-let mortgages through a mortgage broker, while 20 per cent go directly to their lender of choice.



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Gillingham Office Tel: 01634 851008
88 High Street, Gillingham, Kent ME7 1AX

Rainham Office Tel: 01634 374953
11 High Street, Rainham, Kent ME8 7HX

Rochester Office Tel: 01634 812697
150 High Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 1ER

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Chatham £500,000

Converted period property, 6 x 1 bed flats, 1 x 2 bed flats, close to station and commuter links.
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St. Marys Island OIEO £260,000

St Mary's Island Location, Four Bedrooms, Two En-Suites, Two Receptions, Garage.
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Chatham £249,995

4 Bedrooms, 2 Conservatories, Downstairs Cloakroom, Study/Guest Room, Splash Pool
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Hoo £225,000

Five bedroom semi detached house, ground floor cloakroom, garage & driveway.
CALL OUR STROOD OFFICE 01634 715401



Cliffe £225,000

2 bedroom semi detached cottage, overlooking countryside, parking, approx 80' rear garden.
CALL OUR STROOD OFFICE 01634 715401



Rainham £220,000

3 bedroom 1930s semi detached, kitchen & bathroom, conservatory, 110ft garden, parking.
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Rainham £199,500

3 bedroom semi detached family home, re-fitted kitchen & bathroom, garage, gardens, driveway.
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PUBLIC NOTICE



Mann Countrywide are now in receipt of an offer for the sum of £120,000 for 2 Pannell Road, Isle of Grain, Rochester, Kent ME3 0ED. Anyone wishing to place an offer on this property should contact Mann Countrywide, 165 High Street, Strood, Kent ME2 4HH or call 01634 715401 before exchange of contracts.



Gillingham £180,000

3 bedroom terrace house, no chain, upstairs bathroom, downstairs w.c., lounge, dining room
CALL OUR GILLINGHAM OFFICE 01634 851008



Chatham £167,500

3 Double Bedrooms Town House, En-suite to Master Bedroom, No Onward Chain!
CALL OUR CHATHAM OFFICE 01634 843277



Rainham £165,000

3 bedroom terrace home, recently installed kitchen, gardens front & rear, garage, no chain.
CALL OUR RAINHAM OFFICE 01634 374953



Rochester OIEO £150,000

3 bedroom semi detached home. 2 receptions, central heating, double glazing & no chain.
CALL OUR ROCHESTER OFFICE 01634 812697



Rainham £149,995

2 bedroom end terrace, lounge, kitchen/breakfastroom, garden, no chain.
CALL OUR RAINHAM OFFICE 01634 374953

PUBLIC NOTICE



Mann Countrywide are in receipt of an offer for the sum of £145,000 for 24 Beaconsfield Road, Chatham, ME4 5SW. Any wishing to place an offer on this property should contact Mann Countrywide, 126 High Street, Chatham, Kent ME4 4BY or telephone 01634 843 277 before exchange of contracts.



Rochester OIEO £145,000

Two bed semi detached house with off road parking. 2 receptions, utility, ground floor w.c.
CALL OUR ROCHESTER OFFICE 01634 812697



Gillingham £125,000

3 bedroom terrace house, no chain, en suite to master, double glazing, central heating
CALL OUR GILLINGHAM OFFICE 01634 851008



Gillingham £124,995

2 bedroom mid terrace home, 2 separate reception rooms, conservatory, rear garden.
CALL OUR GILLINGHAM OFFICE 01634 851008



Rochester OIEO £120,000

One bedroom second floor apartment. Lounge/diner, kitchen & undercroft parking.
CALL OUR ROCHESTER OFFICE 01634 812697



Gravesend £145,000

3 bed semi detached house, No chain, rear garden, garage, benefit from some modernisation.
CALL OUR GRAVESEND OFFICE 01474 564767



Gillingham OIEO £95,000

2 bedroom top floor flat, allocated parking, ideal first time buy, storage heating
CALL OUR GILLINGHAM OFFICE 01634 851008



Rochester OIEO £85,000

2 bedroom terrace house with 2 receptions, double glazing, upstairs bathroom off the rear bedroom.
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£275,995 Freehold

3 bed semi detached with superb rear aspect views over countryside. Includes double glazing, conservatory, 2 receptions and landscaped garden.

Strood



£113,995 Freehold

Superb two bedroom maisonette, ideal first time buy or retirement property for those looking to downsize.

Strood



£325,000 Freehold

Wonderful three bedroom detached period house which retains many original features including exposed oak beams and fireplace.

Strood



£385,000 Freehold

Five bedroom detached, three reception rooms, fitted kitchen with separate utility room, and DG conservatory.

Rochester



£165,000 Freehold

3 double bedroom home featuring through lounge, fitted kitchen, renewed bathroom, situated in sought after residential road. Available with no chain.

Halling



£199,995 Freehold

3 bed family home situated in a sought after area close to the River Medway. Includes double glazing, central heating, fitted kitchen with integral appliances.

Isle of Grain



£205,000 Freehold

3 bed well presented semi-detached house. Lounge diner, extended kitchen, bathroom, garden, with a patio, decking & small lawned area, garage.

Isle of Grain



£130,000 Freehold

2 bed semi detached house, which is situated approx. 12 miles north east of Strood. Double glazing (where stated) central heating but is in need of redecoration.

Chattenden



£250,000 Freehold

Four bedroom terrace house with lounge, kitchen diner, bathroom, off road parking and garage. Available with no forward chain.

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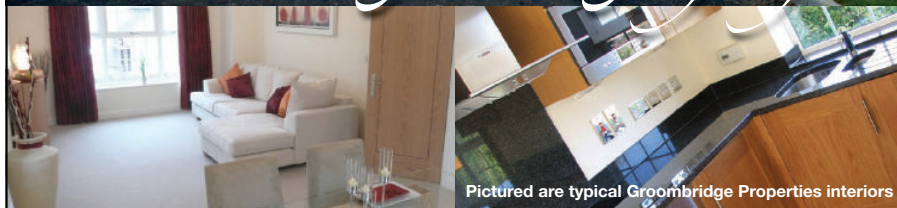


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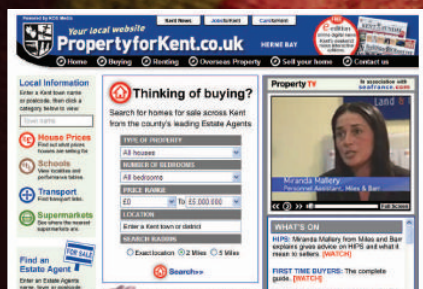
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MOTORS NEWS



Alfa Romeo returns to Maidstone via Lipscomb

CHARISMATIC Italian sporting brand Alfa Romeo returns to Maidstone this month after a two-year absence, by moving into Lipscomb motor group's purpose-built multi-franchise site at Forstal Road, Aylesford.

It is the latest phase in Lipscomb's expansion from a Volvo-only operation to encompass Alfa Romeo parent Fiat, as well as Japanese 4x4 brand Isuzu and the legendary Lotus sporting marque.

Alfa has revived through cars that catch the eye as much as they tempt with power and driver experience, such as the Brera coupe and Alfa 8C Spider supercar. The sporting Mito supermini (pictured), with styling inspired by the 8C, also arrives in early 2009.



Chill out and save some cash with cool Kia deals

KIA dealers across the county have greeted warmer weather with cut-price Chill 'specials' to help drivers keep their cool.

The Picanto Chill city car (from £6,995) comes with air con, remote central locking and iPod compatibility and emits 118g/km of CO₂, qualifying for just £35 a year road tax.

The Rio Chill supermini, with 1.4-litre petrol or 1.5-litre diesel engine – the latter qualifying for £35 a year tax – is priced from £7,995 and comes with air con, central locking, front electric windows and 14-inch alloys.



Judges drive around in bloomin' luxury

BRITAIN in Bloom judges visiting Herne Bay this week had the space and comfort of one of the market's newest people carriers at their disposal.

Canterbury-based Chrysler, Jeep and Dodge dealer Dutton Forshaw loaned a Chrysler Grand Voyager.

Cllr Jenny Samper of Canterbury City Council, thanked the dealership for the generous gesture, adding: "It's through the support of local businesses that we are able to mount such a strong challenge, which will hopefully see us through to victory."



TAKE A PRICE WALK: Hyundai says that just 10 years ago a car with the same equipment spec as the i10 Style could only have been found on one valued at twice the £7,595 price tag

Small car – big ambition

HYUNDAI'S bean counters may be busy revising the sales forecast for the i10 city car launched earlier this year.

The five-door baby replaced and vastly improved upon the truly awful Amica, leading the Korean marque to predict that it would double its UK city car sales of 5,000 units a year... and this was before the latest round of soaring oil prices and Government-induced panic attacks for the average motorist.

We could now be looking at quadrupling that original forecast, providing Hyundai can cope with such demand.

The i10 resembles the Picanto produced by Hyundai sister brand Kia, but is no clone – it is 30mm longer, 70mm taller and has an extra 10mm of wheelbase.

Contrasts with the Kia are even sharper on the road; the Picanto performs adequately for a short car where balancing ride quality and chassis dynamics is always a tough call, but the i10 is a class higher around town even if motorway refinement could be better.

There is a touch more urge too – 65bhp and

ROAD TEST HYUNDAI i10

BY STEVE LOADER

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Green rating	★★★★★

0-62mph in 15.6 seconds – from the same 1.1-litre petrol unit used in the Picanto and two of the three models sneak into the £35 a year road tax band.

Interior 'space engineering' is impressive, comfort levels are good and this high-roof car can be crammed like a van when the rear seats are folded. Some of the textured trimming looks cheap though and the steering wheel feels low rent; as this is the most touched control, Hyundai should have tried harder.

There is no street cred in the styling either, but the big deal is prices from £6,495, air-con as standard, a potential average of 60mpg and Hyundai's worry-free five-year/unlimited mileage warranty.

A £500 'price walk' takes you to the mid-priced Comfort model and the same again buys the almost luxuriously-appointed £7,595 Style flagship, adding electric windows all round, alloys, heated front seats, powered sunroof, under floor luggage box and rear spoiler.

As Hyundai points out, 10 years ago such an equipment list would have been restricted to cars costing twice the price.

• Email steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk



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Elegance 05 (55)
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20" alloys



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35,200 miles, silver
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Elegance 04 (54)
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USED CAR ROUND-UP: OUR PICK FROM A KEY SECTOR

CITY CARS

SMALL city cars are in big demand as the global warming debate heats up, we watch fuel prices soar and Government policies make matters worse. No wonder that we are all asking ourselves: "Just how much car do I really need?" For single users, couples and small families, the answer is something of a no-brainer when a small supermini – now popularly known as a city car or urban runabout – can return nearly 60mpg and falls into the lowest road tax bands. Here are three of the cheapest used buys.

FIAT PANDA



FIAT'S Panda mini marvel donated the chassis and running gear for the Fiat 500 cult car, underlining corporate confidence in the oily bits and bearing out high marks in reliability surveys. Nor should we forget that the Panda is a former European Car of the Year award winner; it offers five doors, acres of space, cut-price running costs and a decent drive and there are even diesel and 4x4 options – though both of those command a used market premium.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CHEVROLET MATIZ



INCH for inch, the Matiz was state of the art in terms of five-door compact city car design when it arrived as a Daewoo in 1998. Early 800cc versions were gutless and noisy on the motorway though, so go for the 1.0-litre engine if possible. Otherwise, the Matiz is a frugal and well-equipped, easily-parked car for local driving and surprisingly spacious and versatile, with a comfortable ride. Aesthetically, the original design is better than the 'puffed up' facelift version.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

KIA PICANTO



KOREA'S Kia has become one of the fastest growing car brands in the UK by adding design and customer appeal to its reputation for value. The five-door Picanto highlights this rapid revolution, with its cheeky looks and generous spec; even entry level models come with steering wheel adjustment, remote central locking, ABS, front electric windows, split folding seats and a radio/CD player. Insurance is also cheap, all engines average well over 50mpg and used examples are fairly plentiful.

STAR QUALITY

Driving appeal	★★★★★
Looks and image	★★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Running costs	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★★
Quality	★★★★★

CORSA From £4995

0404 Corsa 1.3Cdti Design 3dr Energy Sapphire Black 30000mils	£4,995.00
0404 Corsa 1.3Cdti Design 5dr Star Silver 28000mils	£5,495.00
0454 Corsa 1.4 16v Exclusive 3dr Flame Red Black Leather	£5,995.00
0707 Corsa 1.3Cdti Life 5dr Star Silver 6000mils	£8,995.00

NEW CORSA From £7995

0707 New Corsa 1.2 16v Club 3dr Sapphire Black 11000mils	£7,995.00
0707 New Corsa 1.3Cdti Design 3dr Sapphire Black 12000mils	£9,650.00
0757 New Corsa 1.2 16v Club 3dr with Air Con Choice of 2	£8,650.00
0757 New Corsa 1.4 16v Sxi 3dr With Air Con choice of colours	£8,850.00

NEW TIGRA From £9995

0606 New Tigra 1.8 16v Exclusive Sapphire Black Black Leather	£9,995.00
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ASTRA Cabriolet From £7850

0505 Astra 1.8 16v Exclusive Cabriolet Sapphire Black Black Leather	£7,850.00
0505 Astra 1.8 16v Exclusive Cabriolet Silver Lightning	£8,995.00

NEW ASTRA From £7495

0454 New Astra 2.0 16v Turbo Sri 5dr Ultra Blue 28000mils	£7,850.00
0505 New Astra 1.6 16v design 5dr Silver Lightning 27000mils	£7,495.00
0707 New Astra 1.6 16v Sxi 5dr Metro Blue 6800mils	£9,995.00
0757 New Astra 1.6 16v Sxi 5dr Sapphire Black 12000mils	£9,650.00
0757 New Astra 1.6 16v Energy 5dr Choice of Colours	£9,995.00
0757 New Astra 1.8 Sri XP 5dr Choice of 2	£11,650.00

NEW ASTRA SPORT HATCH From £8995

0505 New Astra 1.8 16v Sri Sport hatch Star Silver 40000mils	£8,995.00
0505 New Astra 1.8 16v Sri Sport Hatch with Exterior Pack	£9,995.00
0656 New Astra 2.0 16v T Sri Sport hatch with Exterior Pack	£12,995.00

MERIVA From £6995

0505 Meriva 1.8 16v Design Star Silver 33000mils	£6,995.00
NEW MERIVA From £8995	
0757 New Meriva 1.4 16v Energy Sapphire Black 6000mils	£8,995.00

VECTRA From £5995

0454 Vectra 1.8 16v Life 5dr Silver Lightning 22000mils	£5,995.00
0454 Vectra 2.0Dti Design 5dr Star Silver 29000mils	£7,995.00

NEW VECTRA From £6995

0505 New Vectra 2.0Dti Club 5dr Silver Lightning 31000mils	£6,995.00
0606 New Vectra 1.8 16v Exclusive 5dr Pomegranite Red	£8,995.00
0606 New Vectra 1.8 16v Design 4dr Star Silver 24000mils	£9,495.00

NEW SIGNUM From £16995

0757 New Signum 1.9Cdti 150 Exclusive Auto Silver Lightning	£16,995.00
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ZAFIRA From £6795

0404 Zafira 1.8 16v Life Kings Blue 29000mils	£6,795.00
0454 Zafira 2.0Dti Design Silver Lightning 43000mils	£7,995.00

NEW ZAFIRA From £8450

0505 New Zafira 1.9Cdti 120 Club Pannacotta 35000mils	£9,995.00
0606 New Zafira 1.6 16v Club Flame Red 21000mils	£8,450.00
0606 New Zafira 1.6 16v Active Ultra Blue 19000mils	£8,650.00
0606 New Zafira 1.6 16v Life Pomegranite Red 12000mils	£8,850.00
0606 New Zafira 1.8 16v Design Star Silver 23000mils	£10,495.00
0606 New Zafira 1.9Cdti 120 Active Ultra Blue 9500mils	£10,850.00
0606 New Zafira 1.9Cdti 120 Active Sapphire Black 29000mils	£11,995.00
0656 New Zafira 1.6 16v Active Star Silver 13000mils	£8,850.00
0707 New Zafira 1.9Cdti 120 Energy Ultra Blue 7000mils	£10,995.00
0808 New Zafira 1.6 16v Breeze+Star Silver 1000mils	£12,295.00

MONARO From £14850

0555 Monaro 5.7V8 Black with Black Leather 22000mils	£14,850.00
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DELIVERY MILEAGE CARS

0808 Tigra 1.4 Sapphire Black Alloys delivery miles	£11,995.00
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DELIVERY MILEAGE VANS (all + VAT)

0808 New Astravan 1.9Cdti Sportive Choice of 3 Star Silver	£10,995.00
0808 New Vivaro 2.0Cdti 115 Lwb Star Silver Deliver Miles	£13,995.00

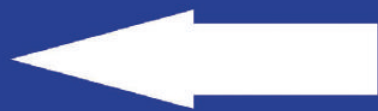
DEMONSTRATORS

0757 Combo Crewvan 1.7Dti Glacier White	
0757 New Meriva 1.6 16v Design Star Silver	£7,995.00
0757 New Astra 1.8 16v Sri 5dr Metro Blue	£9,995.00
0757 New Astra 1.816v Sri Sport hatch Panoramic Roof Metro Blue	£10,995.00
0757 New Vectra 1.9(120) Sri 5dr Silver Lightning	£11,995.00
0757 New Astra 2.016v Turbo Exclusive Twin Top Sapphire Black	£12,995.00
0757 Antara 2.0Cdti S Granite Black 5dr	£14,995.00
0757 New Zafira 1.9Cdti (150) Auto Design Panoramic Roof	£15,995.00
0808 New Agila 1.2 16v Design Moroccan Blue	£15,995.00
0808 New Astra 2.0 VXR Nuremberg Stun	£8,995.00
0808 Antara 2.0Cdti Se Auto Immscher Body Kit Nickel Silver	£16,995.00

LIGHT COMMERCIAL VEHICLES (all prices + VAT)

0454 Toyota Hi Ace 280SWB Red 24000mils	£24,995.00
0554 Vivaro 2.5Cdti Sportive Star Silver 55000mils	£6,995.00
0555 Vivaro 1.9Cdti (100) 9 seat Minibus Air Con Glacier White	£7,995.00
0606 Ford Connect T230 Hallmark Air Con 10000mils	£10,995.00
0656 Astravan 1.7 Sportive Star Silver 24000mils	£8,995.00
0707 New Astravan 1.3 Cdti Club Glacier White 30000mils	£7,995.00
0757 New Astravan 1.7Cdti Club Glacier White 9000mils	£7,495.00
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146 TI, 5 door, p 1996, a car that will one day become a collectors item. a test drive is welcome as well as any inspection. ps is available against this car. red, 94000 miles, £1495, Courtenay Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

AUDI

A2, 1.4 SPORT 5dr, 03/10/2002, cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser cruise control electric windows, silver, 58488 miles, £5499, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

BMW

3 SERIES, 323i, 693461, remote central locking, full leather, head restraints, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, radio, 17" alloys, arctic silver, 68000 miles, £5499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, CTS 3.6 sport luxury v6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTX 2.0, g808wr, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, carfyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d lx side door white ps 43,000 miles fsh lined, £4350, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4i COOL 3dr, 2007, 1.4i cool 3dr hatch sp ed, poseidon blue, 1500 miles, £5995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

CHARADE, 1.0 SL 5dr Hatchback, 07/2004, a/con alloy wheels electric windows central locking ps, champagne, 11, 000 miles, £3995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

FIAT

500, SPORT, g57c/g, air conditioning, alloy wheels, anti-lock brakes, drivers airbag, electric windows, leather interior, passenger airbag, power steering, remote central locking, side airbags, split/folding rear seats, tinted glass, traction control, trip computer, red, 3000 miles, £10495, Thames Group Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 549766 (TRADE)

FORD

MONDEO, 2.0 TDCI ZETEC 5dr Auto (2007 - 2008), 05/12/2007, cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser cruise control electric windows, blue, 13929 miles, £16299, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

TRANSIT 100 short wheel, semi high top, 88,000 miles, full service history, tax July, MOT 12 months, new tyres & battery, white, radio cassette, £1295 ono 07855608376 (PRIVATE)

HONDA

S2000, - 2.0i 2dr (alarm), 1165649, honda s2000 2.0i 2dr (alarm) honda honda Tunbridge Wells drake & fletcher moonrock grey, 2005, 12000 miles, manual, petrol, 2 doors, previous owners, grey, £17995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, 1.6 CDX, 2004, green, 44000 miles, £4495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

ISUZU

RODEO, DENVER MAX Double Cab, bg56lmt, immobiliser, central locking, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, metallic paintwork, air conditioning, due in soon, alloy wheels, 4x4, maroon, 10545 miles, £13000, Van Zone Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446528 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

XJ6, cloth, f 1989, a well preserved well serviced part of british history. jaguars are now very collectable, bronze / gold, 108000 miles, £1995, Courtenay Cars, Charing, Ashford, 01233 714848 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

CEED, 1.6, 2008, 2002 miles, £12495, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DISCOVERY, TDI, p, maroon, 110000 miles, £1500, kent, 079373715872 (PRIVATE)

FREELANDER, 1998, met green with beige, 91644 miles, £3250, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

LEXUS

GS300, GS 300 SE, 503461, remote alarm, central locking, full leather, electric seats, air bag, abs, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, climate control, electric windows, electric mirrors, 15" alloys, blue, 130000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, 2.0 SPORT 5dr (AC), 26/07/2002, cd player driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 62385 miles, £3800, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 982321 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

230 SPORT COMPRESSOR, 1998, fantastic car with full ivory leather interior full sport pack. black/blue, 57,000 miles, £5999.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

MG

MGTf, 1.8 135 16v 2dr, 10/06/2002, grey, 43388 miles, £3500, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 982321 (TRADE)

MINI

ONE, 1.6 3dr, 30/09/2005, cd player abs driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, blue, 20237 miles, £9999, Invicta Motors, Ashford, 01233 504400 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

MITSUBISHI L 200, 09 2006, 2.5 td d-4 life 4x4 pickup air con 9,000 miles day cab met blue, £9625, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

NISSAN

NISSAN KUBISTAR (kangoo), 12 2005, 1.5 dci 70 se elec pack ply lined met silver mpg 52 40,000 miles fsh cd, £4495, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

306, 1.4, 1998, met red, 85046 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

RENAULT

RENAULT KANGOO 1.5 dci 80, 03 2004, authentique 5 seater red 50,000 miles fsh, £3495, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

MEGANE, DYNAMIQUE, y, a lovely car in vgc, auto, elec air and windows, cd changer, spoiler, tax may 09, mot april 09, silver, 61800 miles, £1950, 01227 730808 (PRIVATE)

ROVER

200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

25 TURBO DIESEL, year 2000 W reg, two owners from new, 102k, service history, air conditioning, PAS & electric windows, good condition, radio cassette, metallic green, tax December, MOT Feb 09 £950 07828157321 (PRIVATE)

SAAB

9000, 2.3 CDE Saloon 4d 2290cc auto, n, very rare auto saab 9000 grillin very fast car very clean immaculate for year, green, 100k miles, £1199.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

SEAT

ALTEA, 2007, black magic, 0 miles, £17795, WJ King Vauxhall, Gravesend, 01474 565656 (TRADE)

SKODA

FABIA, 1.4 16V Bohemia Estate 5d 1390cc, g55k/p, finished in sahara beige with black fresh onyx interior, head restraints, split rear seat, steering wheel leather and tinted glass, roof rails, one-registered owner, manufacturers warranty until 25/01/2009 or 60,000 miles, which ever is the sooner, sahara beige metallic, £8990, Sherbrooke Garage, Gillingham, 01634 377444 (TRADE)

SUZUKI

ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 54/2005, gas central locking electric windows, bright red, 15, 000 miles, £3895, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

TOYOTA

CELICA, VVTi, 2006, red, 20000 miles, £11495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

VAUXHALL ASTRA SPORTIVE, 06 2007, 1.9 cdi 120 bhp met silver cd lined air/con 6 speed 24,000 miles fsh, £8395, Beaver Commercial, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CORSA, 1.2 16V LIFE Hatchback 5dr, 54/2005, gas central locking electric windows, green, 11, 000 miles, £5395, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

VOLKSWAGEN

BEETLE, 1.6 3 DOOR HATCHBACK, 2001 (x), 01 (x) vw beetle 1.6 3 door hatchback metallic burgandy red, 47000 miles miles, £5495, Rivers Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

GOLF, 1.4 8 50 5dr (AC), h07wzd, climate control, abs, air bag, win air BAGS, adjustable steering column, power steering, multiple airbags, automatic electric windows, radio, stereo, reflex silver, 8822 miles, £10499, AutoPlanet Maidstone, Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)



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Senior & General Appointments 37-42

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The venue is open seven days and evenings a week, all year round and caters for both individual and corporate customers.

Parties interested in tendering for this contract, which commences on the 1st October 2006 should, in the first instance, contact Joanne McInnes on joanne@buckmore.co.uk

www.buckmore.co.uk

Male or Female Senior Support Worker

Vacancy available at our Residential Home in Sheerness

NVQ Level 3 required.

This post will involve up to two sleep-ins per week. Will need to have 6 months experience working with ALD. Clean British driving licence required.

For further information telephone 01795 841220
Contact Administrative Assistant / Lisa Allen

Previous applicant need not apply

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Previous experience preferred but not essential.

Pleasant, helpful personality is essential.

Please contact David Jackson, Service Manager on 01227 766777

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Part Time Outreach Coordinator
Mid-Kent
Hours to be negotiated (one year contract)
£18,239-£19,642 pro rata (pay award pending)

Ref 367/KOS

Closing date 18th July 2008. Interview date 29th July 2008.
For an informal discussion contact Julianne Garner on 07763 108191



Support Workers Supported Living (2 posts)
Staplehurst
37 hrs per week
£15,760-£16,603 (pay award pending)

Ref 363/KOS

Closing date 21st July 2008. Interview date 6th August 2008.
For an informal discussion contact Bill Wood on 07858 757288.



For further information visit or to apply on line visit www.mcch.co.uk.
For application forms and job descriptions call our recruitment line on 0845 370 3037. We also have large type/Braille versions available on request. All appointments are subject to a Criminal Records Disclosure.



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FULL-TIME TEACHING ASSISTANT

We require for September 2008 a Teaching Assistant to support our Additional Educational Needs Department. The person appointed will be required to work with students who have additional educational needs, both in a classroom setting and on a 1-1 and small group basis. Some experience of working with students with additional educational needs would be an advantage and we will consider applications from Higher Level Teaching Assistants.

This position is a permanent appointment for 28.5 hours per week term time only.

Starting salary dependent on qualifications and experience.

Further details and application form can be obtained from the Headteacher's PA, Mrs Theisen, 01622 754551 or email headteacher@st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk Visit our website www.st-simon-stock.kent.sch.uk for details

Closing date for applications: Monday 14th July 2008

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Lecturer Construction – Trowel Occupations and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/72
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Academic Support Assistant Post Ref: 08/74
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 21st July 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

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Whatever your background you can
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OPEN EVENING

Tuesday, 15th July 4.30 pm – 9.00 pm, Charter House, Park St, Ashford, TN24 8EH

At Alliance & Leicester we're committed to ensuring good experiences for our staff as well as our customers. That's why we're developing our customer service operations in the UK, offering some of the best benefits in the business and providing an excellent working environment. Our spacious and modern contact centre with its excellent transport links, lively and vibrant atmosphere, contemporary chill-out area, and Deli style coffee lounge helps make this a great place to work.

We take customer service seriously at Alliance & Leicester, which means not only providing you with extensive training, but also giving you all the support you need when you are ready to talk directly to our customers. Prior experience of spotting and maximising sales opportunities would be an advantage but don't worry our sales targets are achievable and we're backed up by some of the best products on the market.

Customer Advisors – Servicing

Full and Part Time Opportunities (inc. evening & weekend shifts)
£16,500 OTE (pro-rata)

You will handle telephone calls from our customers, helping them with every aspect of account maintenance and promoting our award-winning products which can make or save them money.

So who are we looking for? The answer is anyone with a warm, friendly and outgoing personality, and a strong customer focus. You might be returning to work after a break, you may be attending or left further education, or maybe you're just looking for a change of career. All kinds of people work here so you're bound to fit in from the word go!

In return for giving great customer service and hitting your sales targets we offer an excellent package of salary and commission, company pension, flexible holiday entitlement, sharesave schemes and all the training and development you will need to get where you want to be.

Just come along to our open evening at Charter House, Park St, Ashford, TN24 8EH.

Tuesday, 15th July any time between 4.30 pm – 9.00 pm.

If you can't make it don't worry, just call our recruitment line or visit our website.

Call 01233 212173 and complete a 15 minute telephone application (1pm-5pm Mon to Thur and 12.30am-5.30pm Fri).

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Foster Carers Required

FosterCare UK requires additional foster carers for children in need in your area. Are you an experienced foster carer? Or are you just thinking of fostering as a new career? You must have fostering and/or skills in working with children and be prepared to work to high standards with a challenging group of young people.

We are currently seeking carers with experience of or an interest in caring for:

- Teenagers/13+ age range
- Siblings groups
- Children with high needs in relation to physical disabilities
- Children with Autistic Spectrum Disorders
- Young people seeking asylum in this country
- Young people remanded to the care of their local authority
- A young person, who is a parent or about to become a parent

You must:

- Have children no younger than 8 years old living at home
- Have a supportive network of family and friends

- Be over 25, single or a couple
- Have at least one spare bedroom
- Be prepared to attend monthly comprehensive training
- Be able to work to high standards with a diverse group of young people

We offer:

- Stakeholder pension
- Three weeks paid respite
- A comprehensive training and development programme
- 24 hour support from an experienced and child focused team
- A professional fee of up to £420.00 per week for each child
- Golden hello and annual retention payments
- Activity and holiday allowances

fostercareuk
OPEN EVENINGS

Tuesday 15th July
Ashford International Hotel, Kent
Thursday 17th July
Pfizers Social Club, Sandwich, Kent
Tuesday 22nd July
Gainsborough Conference Centre,
Rochester, Kent
5.30pm – 8pm

If you want to work from home, make a difference to a young person's life and are looking for a rewarding role, then come along to one of our information sessions. There will be a presentation and an opportunity to find out more about fostering.

Still thinking about it?

We have set new service standards in the way we recruit, assess, train and support our foster carers. Our practice, focus and attention to detail ensure that the child is always at the centre of what we do.

Call: 0844 800 1941

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Mrs S Schofield, Tube Gear Ltd,
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Springhead Road, Northfleet,
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accounts@tube-gear.com

Elmside Garage requires a Motor Vehicle Technician

with circa 5 years main dealer experience.

We are offering an initial start salary of £9.50 per hour plus additional bonuses.

You will also be required to work one Saturday morning in three for which you will be paid overtime. The hours of work are 8.30 until 5.30 with 1 hour for lunch.

Please send a CV to Steven Styles
Elmside Garage, 35-37 Upper Elmers End Road,
Beckenham, Kent BR3 3QY
or email steven.styles@elmsideskoda.co.uk

Apply now by calling, texting, emailing or come along to one of our open evenings.

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BSF Project Managers

Starting salary £35,370, with progression through contribution related pay to £40,705 pa
Brenchley House, Maidstone

The Building Schools for the Future (BSF) Team is part of a dynamic team responsible for delivering the Kent BSF and Academies programme for Kent County Council.

Kent County Council was successful in obtaining funding through the national BSF programme which will see investment through a mix of new build and refurbishment of all secondary schools in Kent. For the purposes of delivering the programme KCC is currently undergoing a procurement process to select a private sector partner to deliver all of the construction projects to the secondary estate in Gravesend, Thanet and Swale. Following the conclusion of the first procurement, KCC intends to procure a further two partners who will deliver to the rest of the County.

We are seeking to appoint two Project Managers (Site Liaison/Construction) to join this high profile team. You will be responsible for providing input during the procurement and lead up to construction works, management of the interface between the Contractor, KCC and schools during the construction phase, decant and building handover.

You will work with the existing KCC BSF/PFI and Academies Team, its external advisors, schools and other local stakeholders, as well as with Partnerships for Schools (PFS) and the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) to ensure that local proposals facilitate delivery of the national objectives.

You will have excellent organisational, communication and negotiation skills. You will need to demonstrate motivation, and the ability to work on your own or as part of a team. Previous experience of working with or within a construction environment as well as a current understanding of the Education sector is essential, with previous experience in procurement or the public sector an advantage.

Ref: CFHE/o8/0283

Closing date: Midday, 24th July 2008.

Interview date: 12th August 2008.

Westwood Centre, Margate

All posts are fixed term until August 2009

Team Leader

Starting salary £29,920, with progression through contribution related pay to £35,370 pa

Do you have experience of and commitment to working with young people, and could you support and offer guidance to other colleagues?

If so, you will be a team leader who is bright, full of ideas and enjoys using their initiative, joining our dedicated and highly effective staff team.

The primary function of this role is to manage and support the Kent Safe Schools Alternative Curriculum Provision at the Westwood Centre. We are developing an innovative project designed to meet the holistic educational needs of those who have been identified at risk of permanent exclusion in Key Stage Four within an off-school setting for fifty young people.

This potentially challenging yet highly rewarding role will encourage an organised, innovative and young person's focussed approach to education, working effectively with the curriculum to provide core subjects, vocational experiences and the development of an inclusive approach to wider supportive services and the extended schools agenda.

The role will include working alongside staff, agencies, schools, communities, parents and young people to identify opportunities to establish robust working partnerships. You will manage the provision of full time education for the young people and also have a shared responsibility for supporting other staff in a similar area, with a particular focus on the co-ordination of services, induction and training.

We are looking for applicants with a good understanding of educational issues who possess experience of working with young people, specifically in the secondary sector.

Ref: CFHE/o8/0272



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Project Officer

Starting salary £22,825, with progression through contribution related pay to £26,159 pa pro-rata term time

5 posts available with the possibility of one post becoming an 18.5 hour job share between two people

Do you have experience of working in an innovative way and with a committed approach toward the education of young people?

We are seeking candidates who are keen to rise to the daily challenges in providing high quality and innovative education programmes through a broad spectrum of subjects and experiences.

The main elements of this role are to directly design and deliver engaging and exciting educational programmes and sessions. We are developing an innovative project designed to meet the holistic educational needs of those who have been identified at risk of permanent exclusion in Key Stage Four within an off-school setting for fifty young people.

These challenging, yet highly rewarding roles will need an organised and innovative person who is focussed to education. You will work effectively with the curriculum to provide core subjects, vocational experiences and the development of an inclusive approach to wider supportive services and the extended schools agenda. An open approach to deliver across a spectrum of subject areas is preferable and may include the design and delivery of schemes of work based around our dedicated areas of specialism that include: Motor Vehicle Engineering, Construction, IT, Carpentry, Art and Music.

The role will include working alongside other staff members, agencies, schools, communities and parents to maximise young peoples learning opportunities and to establish robust working partnerships.

We are looking for applicants with a good understanding of educational issues who possess experience of working with young people, specifically in the secondary sector.

Ref: CFHE/o8/0271

Project Assistant

Starting salary £13,959, with progression through contribution related pay to £15,826 pa pro-rata term time

4 Posts with the possibility of an 18.5 hour job share for the equivalent of one post

Kent Safe Schools have successfully secured a bid to support permanently excluded young people through alternative education programmes.

The main function of this role is to work as part of a wider staff team supporting the direct learning and education of the young people within the Kent Safe Schools Alternative Curriculum Provision at the Westwood Centre. We are developing an innovative project designed to meet the holistic educational needs of those who have been identified at risk of permanent exclusion in Key Stage Four within an off-school setting for fifty young people.

We are looking for applicants with a good understanding of educational issues and who possess experience of working with young people, specifically in the secondary sector.

You will be a flexible Project Assistant with commitment, vision and passion who can be a key part of the staff team.

Additionally, you will support the delivery of a broad-based curriculum aimed at targeting up to 50 young people at Key Stage 4, complementing other professional disciplines.

The aims of the teams' work will be the maintenance and development of young people towards recognised qualifications and learning outcomes.

Ref: CFHE/o8/0273

Closing date for all three posts: Midday, 18th July 2008.

These posts are subject to an Enhanced Disclosure Application to the Criminal Records Bureau.

To apply, visit www.kent.gov.uk/jobs Alternatively, please email recruitment.Line@kent.gov.uk or call 0845 8247 904.

Please quote relevant reference number.



www.kent.gov.uk/jobs

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people.



REF: 485 - YOUNG PERSONS' DRUG AND ALCOHOL WORKER (EARLY INTERVENTION/TIER 2) GRAVESEND, DARTFORD & GRAVESEND
£21,412 - £25,320 SCP 26 - 31 (pay award pending)
37 hours per week
Essential Car User Allowance up to £1,056

You will be involved in a range of community based services for young people who use/misuse drugs, or are at risk of doing so. This will include early intervention and prevention initiatives with targeted groups of young people through giving advice and information, raising awareness and educating them about the risks of using drugs. Much of this will be carried out through group work and presentations, with some one to one work. It will include working closely with other agencies and professionals.

You need to have good substance misuse knowledge, excellent communication and engagement skills, casework skills, and the ability to be creative and innovative. Proven experience of working effectively with young drug and alcohol users is a prerequisite.

Previous applicants need not apply.

For application forms and further information, contact:

KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT.

Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351,

Email recruitment@kca.org.uk, www.kca.org.uk.

Closing date: Monday 14th July 2008 at 5.00 pm

Interview date: TBC

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

Charity No: 292824



The Towers School

Faversham Road, Kennington

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Tel: 01233 634171 • Fax: 01233 628326

Email: admin@towers.kent.sch.uk

11-19 Kent High School

1400 Students on roll (320+ in 6th Form)

Teacher / Instructor of Construction

Required for September 2008 • Salary negotiable

We are seeking a teacher / instructor with the ability and interest to deliver NVQ / Btec / New diploma qualifications for students aged 14-19 years. We will provide an extremely supportive environment for you to support students in realising their potential.

Why this job might be right for you:-

- Joining a school with a good Ofsted report at all Key Stages including Post 16 education
- Excellent provision for students in Years 10,11,12 and 13
- Purpose built provision for Construction
- Attractive salary and job security
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For an informal visit to the school please contact Justin Davey on 01233 634171 ex 227.

Applications are by CV and covering letter by email on admin@towers.kent.sch.uk, fax on 01233 628326 or post. Please mark for the attention of Mrs Kyla Weedon. All applications should be received by Monday, 14th July 2008.

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E-Learning Development Manager

£29,245 - £32,917 pa

In this varied and challenging role you will have the opportunity to drive the future of e-learning in an environment where Moodle has recently been implemented. Driving ILT strategy throughout the College, you will work closely with staff and students alike - empowering them to use it innovatively and effectively in their teaching and learning activities.

Along with a City & Guilds or Cert Ed or PGCE qualification, you must have reached at least Level 3 standard in Office 2003 or ideally 2007. Well organised and a gifted communicator, you will also bring us proven experience of developing, administering and teaching in virtual learning environments. Skills in XP, Vista, website construction and network environments will additionally be important.

All posts will require a Criminal Record Bureau Enhanced Disclosure Certificate.

The benefits in joining us are immense: generous annual leave; flexible working benefits; full support including an on-site nursery; final salary pension; private health plan; Health & Fitness suite and more.

For further details, a job description and an application form, please contact the HR department on 01732 376511 or email hr-dept@wkc.ac.uk

Closing date: Thursday, 12 noon 17 July 2008.



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Communities Customer Services

Customer Service Assistant (Housing Benefit) Job Share

Salary: Circa £15,500 - £18,500 pro rata

Ref: PTCSA/AT

18.5 hours - Thursday, Friday and
alternate Wednesdays.

The Benefits Customer Service Assistant is responsible for managing enquiries from customers relating to, in the main, Housing Benefit and Council Tax with particular emphasis on ensuring excellent customer delivery at first point of contact.

You will have previous experience of working in a customer focused front-line service, adhering to strict procedures and providing outstanding levels of customer care. Excellent communication skills and the ability to deal with customers confidently, politely and efficiently are essential. Good IT skills are also prerequisite for this role.

Experience of previous handling of Housing Benefit / Council Tax enquiries would be advantageous.

Applicants will be required to attend a short skills assessment as part of the selection process.

Communities Customer Services

Repairs Assistant

Salary: Circa £15,500 - £18,500

Ref: RA/AT

The Customer Service Repairs Assistant is responsible for managing enquiries from customers relating to, in the main, Housing repairs with particular emphasis on ensuring excellent customer delivery at first point of contact.

You will have previous experience of working in a customer focused front-line service, adhering to strict procedures and providing outstanding levels of customer care. Excellent communication skills and the ability to deal with customers confidently, politely and efficiently are essential. Good IT skills are also prerequisite for this role.

Applicants will be required to attend a short skills assessment as part of the selection process.

Housing and Environment Waste and Horticulture

Tractor Driver

Salary: £300.79 per week

Ref: TD/SA

The horticultural department are looking for an experienced tractor driver to assist with the maintenance and cutting of grass verges, open spaces and sport pitches.

Applicants will also undertake general grounds maintenance when not operating tractor equipment.

A full clean driving license is essential for this post.

Housing and Environment Health and Safety

Health and Safety Administrator

Salary: Circa £16,500 - £18,500

Ref: HS/GH

As a Health and Safety Administrator you will provide administration and operational support to the Health and Safety Advisor within the Housing and Environment Directorate.

You will have previous experience of working in a similar role. Excellent communication skills, IT skills as well as the ability to work on your own initiative are also essential in this role.

Housing and Environment Director

Part-time PA to Director (Housing and Environment)

Salary: Circa £17,000 - £21,000 pro rata

Ref: PA/CR

18.5 hours per week

An experienced administrator, you will provide a high level secretarial and administrative support to the Director (Housing and Environment) and to other divisional managers as necessary.

You will be customer focused and articulate with the ability to work on your own initiative as well as part of a team. Excellent communication skills both oral and written and the ability to organise are essential.

Applicants will be required to attend a short skills assessment as part of the selection process.

Housing and Environment Housing Services

Rent Officer

Salary: Circa £15,500 - £18,500

Ref: RO/MB

As a Rent Officer you will work as part of a team providing a comprehensive rent collection service to the tenants of Gravesham Borough Council.

You will have previous experience of working in a customer focused front-line service, providing outstanding levels of customer care and handling cash. Excellent communication skills, IT skills as well as the ability to work on your own initiative are also essential in this role.

You must also have a full driving license and use of a vehicle. You will be required to work unsocial hours from time to time.

Applicants will be required to attend a short skills assessment as part of the selection process.

Housing and Environment Waste and Horticulture

Driver Labourer

Salary: £275.96 per week

Ref: DL/SA

The waste management department are looking for motivated people to join the refuse and street cleansing team to help keep the streets and open spaces of Gravesham free of rubbish, litter, flyposting, graffiti and flytipping.

Duties include collection of refuse/recycling, street sweeping, emptying of dog/litter bins and the clearance of dumped rubbish. Applicants will need to be flexible in the duties that they perform.

A full clean driving license is essential for this post. HGV applicants are welcome

Closing date for all posts: 21 July 2008

For an application form for any of the above posts please contact:

Customer Services, Gravesham Borough Council,
Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend,
Kent DA12 1AU.

Telephone: 01474 33 70 00

Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk



Gravesham Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. The Council also operates a no smoking policy

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Hythe House Support Ltd
Tel: 01795 438634

REGISTERED SOCIAL WORKER

£24,000 - £32,000

Closing date 25 July 2008

We are an independent fostering agency based in Sittingbourne, Kent, offering a friendly and supportive environment working with children who have behavioural and learning difficulties. Hythe House is registered with Ofsted and The Pan London Consortium.

All our foster carers are based in Kent. We are seeking to recruit a registered social worker. Duties will include recruiting, training, supervising and supporting carers for the fostering task.

For further information and an application form please contact Jackie Stevens or Gary Duffy at Hythe House Support Ltd on 01795 438634.
www.hythehousesupport.co.uk
59 Staplehurst Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 2NY



BECOME A MULTI-SKILLED ENERGY ASSESSOR

By law trained Energy Assessors will need to carry out an estimated 3 million Energy Assessments in the year from this October - 200,000 commercial buildings, 1.8 million homes being rented and 1.1 million being sold (2.1m in normal house sale years).

Applicants are therefore required to train now - no previous surveying experience is required - at our London, Bristol, Birmingham and Manchester training centres which are approved by the Government-appointed Awarding Body for the Built Environment. The subsidised training is taken in separately bookable 1-week modules usually around current commitments and you qualify as a multi-skilled Domestic and Commercial Energy Assessor, Flood Risk Assessor and Home Inspector.

Homes now being sold already require Assessments with average fees of £70 being paid to our Assessors - fees for the 1.8m rented homes from October are expected to be similar. Fees for currently optional Home Inspections average £250 - commercial Assessments are expected to be higher. Up to 15 domestic Assessments or 6 commercial Assessments or Home Inspections are estimated to be carried out in a week, subject to size of properties and supply. As well as thousands of Assessors carrying out Energy Assessments, 7500 Home Inspectors will be needed upon Government making Home Inspections compulsory - less than a thousand are currently certified.

Regardless of the 'credit crunch' these new 'green' laws and 3 million Assessments are creating a rapidly expanding new industry which you could join, subject to interview and Aptitude test. So apply now for subsidised training and to start a new career carrying out this environmentally important work with potential multiple income stream opportunities.



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Ref: HKO28E

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We're looking for a 'customer champion' with strong change management experience, to enhance the delivery of services to our customers. Managing will only be part of the equation; your ability to put new ideas into action will be key.

We're looking for significant experience in a customer contact centre or similar environment. You will have managed staff in such a role, including recruitment and selection, management through motivation, target setting, training, development and appraisal. Most importantly you will have devised and implemented new customer processes.

You'll be completely at ease with support technology like CRM, telephony including IVR, scripts and workflow. This also requires absolute confidence with performance analysis, business process mapping, process development and project management. Flexibility towards working hours is essential, as occasionally you'll be asked to work outside normal office hours.

Go to www.dartford.gov.uk or call
01322 343677 for an application pack.

Closing date: 14th July 2008.
Interview date: 30th July 2008.

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the University of Greenwich at Medway ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Ref: 01005/K3

Based in the University's Partnership Division you will undertake a range of secretarial and administrative duties in support of the functions of the Partnership Division with a primary focus on supporting the administration and development of work based learning and employer engagement activities and projects.

You will have a good level of secondary education, strong IT skills with a sound knowledge of Microsoft Access, PowerPoint and Word and the ability to work with a wide range of client groups, staff and students.

You will need experience of working to tight deadlines and be prepared to travel to other University campuses, work flexible hours at peak times and be able to work on your own initiative with a minimum of supervision.

Salary: £19,841 - £22,332 per annum

We aim to be an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from all sections of the community.

To obtain further particulars and an application form visit our website www.gre.ac.uk, email: jobs@gre.ac.uk or write to the Personnel Office, University of Greenwich, Avery Hill Road, London, SE9 2UG quoting the job reference. Applications should be returned by 5:00 pm on 18 July 2008.



Demelza Hospice Care for Children has further opportunities to join our dynamic and successful children's charity providing high quality care to life limited children and support to their families.



Human Resources Officer c.£21-23k

Demelza Hospice Care for Children provides specialist care and support to children with life limiting conditions and their families. Based from our hospice in Sittingbourne, you will undertake some travel to other sites in Kent, East Sussex and south London, providing generalist support and advice to line managers and employees.

With 150 multi disciplinary employees across 3 sites, plus a number of retail outlets, and 750 volunteers, you will be a competent generalist who enjoys the whole spectrum of HR practice and can be innovative to problem solving and thorough in delivery of a number of concurrent projects.

Working within a small HR team you will be a strong team player and have some understanding of the charity/voluntary sector with an appreciation for the diversity of disciplines you will be supporting.

With a minimum of a CPD CPP and previous experience in a generalist role, you will enjoy a challenge and be self motivated in keeping your knowledge of all relevant issues up to date, demonstrating recent personal CPD. You will need a driving license, willingness to travel, and an ability to re-prioritize a changing workload.

You will need previous experience of recruitment, all aspects of performance management, including appraisal systems, capability and disciplinary issues, contracts of employment, and all aspect of employee relations.

Closing Date 14th July, 2008

Informal visits and chats warmly welcomed with Lavinia Jarrett, Head of Human Resources on 01795 845207. For an application pack contact Recruitment Line on 01795 845295.

Visit our website on www.demelzahouse.org

Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy. Registered Charity No. 1039651.

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Or email to: info@geebecservices.co.uk



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The Governing Body are seeking to appoint a Clerk to the Governors with effect from 1st September 2008, or earlier. The successful candidate would ideally be able to offer a flexible approach to hours worked, estimated at 220 hours per annum, worked on a possible half day per week basis, to include some early evening commitment.

Training will be available for the successful candidate.

Applications are invited from candidates, with relevant inter-personal and ICT skills, who can support the Governing Body by providing an excellent and reliable administrative service. Applications by letter, should be addressed to the Chairman of Governors, at the above address or by e-mail to office@thomasaveling.co.uk. Please include the names and addresses of two referees.

Closing date: Friday 11th July 2008

achievement employability experience development



Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Curriculum Co-ordinator Mechanical Engineering – First and National Diplomas in Mechanical Engineering

Post Ref: 08/77

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum

Lecturer Animal Care and Land Based

Post Ref: 07/04

18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Hospitality and Catering

Post Ref: 04/154

27.75 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Access to HE

Post Ref: 08/97

18.5 hrs per week, 2 years fixed term.

Salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer in Journalism

Post Ref: 08/55

18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Pre 16 Tutor

Post Ref: 07/16

18.5 hrs per week, fixed term post ending 31 August 2010.

Salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Supply Lecturers in Animal Care and Land Based Studies

Post Ref: S/AL

Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Supply Lecturers in Equine Studies

Post Ref: S/EQ

Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Trainer Demonstrator Animal Care and Land Based

Post Ref: TD13

18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Curriculum Support Assistant within the Faculty of ICT/ Retail & Commercial/ Leisure & Tourism/ Catering/ Business & Law

Post Ref: 08/66

37 hrs per week, 38 weeks per year term time.

Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Learning Resources Assistant

Post Ref: LRCA1

7.5 hrs per week, 1 year fixed term, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA) and Adult Learning Grant Assistant

Post Ref: EMA

18.5 hrs per week, 40 weeks per year term time. Fixed term to 31 August 2009.

Salary starting £14,535 pro rata per annum

Curriculum Support Assistant within the Faculty of Agriculture/ Horticulture and Animal Care

Post Ref: 04/118

18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks per year term time.

Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Resource Assistant Animal Care and Land Based

Post Ref: 06/08

18.5 hrs per week, salary range starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

Assistant Head Chef

Post Ref: RC01

37 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.

The closing date for the above posts is Monday 21st July 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

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Discover your Potential

Mid-Kent College of Higher & Further Education is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with ambitious plans to build on its existing reputation.

At a time of unprecedented change the College is looking to recruit professionals to help deliver excellence in the following areas:

Lecturer in Travel & Tourism

Ref: JU01

Salary: £25,092 - £28,719

An opportunity has arisen for a Lecturer in Travel & Tourism. The main purpose of the role is to deliver and teach on a range of Travel and Tourism courses. You must have a relevant degree, ideally in Tourism and will have or be willing to work towards an appropriate teaching qualification within a specified timeframe. The department will also consider applications from candidates who would prefer part-time hours therefore please specify clearly on your application form.

Lecturer in Engineering

Ref: JU02

Salary: £25,092 - £28,719

You will have proven experience in Engineering and be able to teach across a range of levels from Foundation/GCSE to Higher National. The successful candidate will have a HNC or Degree in an Engineering subject. Candidates should hold or be willing to work towards an approved teaching qualification.

Lecturer in Public Services

Ref: JU03

Salary: £25,092 - £28,719

We are seeking to recruit a Lecturer to teach on a range of BTEC and school links programmes. The successful candidate will have experience in Public Services and have a recognised teaching qualification. The department will also consider applications from candidates without a teaching qualification although this will be reflected in the grading.

Additional Learning Support Tutor

Ref: JU04

Salary: £25,092 - £28,719

The successful candidate will work across all our College campuses and will have a recognised teaching qualification or be working towards an appropriate qualification. The candidate will be able to demonstrate recent, all round experience and knowledge in supporting learners with difficulties.

Lecturer in Plumbing

Ref: JU05

Salary: £25,092 - £28,719

The ideal candidate will have current knowledge and experience of the Building Services Industry and have a relevant trade qualification in plumbing. A recognised teaching qualification would be advantageous.

Technician in Engineering

Ref: JU06

Support Grade B: £15,057 - £18,534

As a member of the Engineering & Construction Crafts team you will undertake all support duties associated with the Engineering workshops as directed by teaching or instructing staff. You will have experience working in an Engineering environment and/or have an HNC in Engineering.

Sessional Lecturers

Ref: JU07

£19.74 to £28.28 per hour including holiday component

The College is currently looking to recruit dynamic and enthusiastic Sessional Lecturers in Health Care, Child Care & Public Services to deliver programmes from foundation to level 3. Previous experience in relevant field essential and teaching experience would be advantageous.

Sessional Lecturer in Psychology

Ref: JU08

£19.74 to £28.28 per hour including holiday component

We are looking to recruit a Sessional Lecturer in Psychology to teach on a range of courses and participate in the development of Psychology. Applicants must have a relevant degree in Psychology.

Information, Advice & Guidance Advisor - Level 4

Ref: JU09

Salary: £23,669 - £30,027

Learner Advisor - Level 3

Ref: JU10

Salary: £11,599 - £16,199

The above posts are an exciting opportunity for you to join our Matrix awarding winning Information, Advice and Guidance (IAG) team working across all College Campuses to actively support prospective and current learners to achieve their full academic and personal potential. For further details please refer to job description.

Examinations Assistant

Ref: JU11

Grade B: £14,618 - £17,994

As the main point of contact for at least one Awarding Body you will provide administrative support for examinations in liaison with the examinations co-ordinator. You will have experience using databases and Microsoft Word and Excel.

Learning Support Assistant

Ref: JU12

Salary: £11,599 - £16,199

As a Learning Support Assistant you will support learners with challenging behaviour and learning disabilities. Previous experience would be advantageous.

Caretaker (5 month fixed term contract 20 hours per week)

Ref: JU13

Salary: £11,599 - £16,199 pro-rata

As a member of the Campus Management Team you will help provide a clean and safe environment for users of the College's buildings and grounds and assist in other general campus management duties as required.

Kitchen Assistant

Ref: JU14

(27 hours per week) Salary: £12,245 - £13,004 pro-rata

We are seeking to recruit a Kitchen Assistant to provide support to both students and Lecturers in the Catering department.

Mid-Kent College is working in partnership with RBLI Employment Solutions who support individuals who have a disability or health condition in returning to work. If you would like further information regarding RBLI to see if you are eligible for assistance with your application and returning to work then please contact RBLI on 0800 783 1144 or visit their website www.rbli.co.uk for information, advice and guidance.

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.

Closing date: Friday, 18 July 2008

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Child victims to benefit from new claims ruling

A COURT of Appeal decision allowing child victims of uninsured hit and run drivers to bring a claim up until their 21st birthday has been welcomed by Kent lawyer Neille Ryan.

Prior to the new ruling the Motor Insurance Bureau, whose untraced driver scheme compensates child victims of uninsured drivers, stipulated that a claim must be made within three years of an accident.

Mr Ryan, personal injury partner at one of the South East's leading law firms, Furley Page Solicitors, said: "This is a great victory for accident victims."

Truck firm's work pays off with Guild reward

THE Talking Truck Company, a Maidstone-based removals business employing skilled labour, has recently been awarded membership of The Guild of Master Craftsmen in recognition of the company's commitment to work with skill and integrity.

The company is now entitled to display the Guild logo at its premises, on company vehicles and on all stationery items. Membership of the Guild of Master Craftsmen offers many benefits to those able to satisfy the criteria. It is a national organisation, with members in many different trades, crafts and vocations.

In good company with free internet listing

INANUTSHELL.BIZ, the online community for independent businesses, is offering Kent companies a free listing in its new directory, a network that generates new suppliers and customers for companies in all business segments.

The site gives free access to business news, information and advice and now access to the networking opportunity of an online community.

The free listing will enable companies to promote themselves to other businesses around the country.

For more detailed information, log on at www.inanutshell.biz.

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Your LOCAL TV ONLINE



See how the face of Kent's hop industry is changing during the 21st century

Some are still more equal than others

BY TONY PATEY

EQUALITIES Minister Harriet Harman has unveiled wide-ranging proposals for a new Equalities Bill, but the reaction from Kent business experts seems mixed so far.

It covers issues such as the gender pay gap, ageism and positive discrimination in favour of women and ethnic minorities, but it could mean local firms trying to tread fine legal lines.

Susanna Gilmartin, partner and employment lawyer at law firm Thomson Snell and Passmore, which has offices covering the Thames Gateway and Tunbridge Wells, said Britain introduced the first race discrimination legislation in the late 1960s.

"The approach taken by such laws has been to prevent or restrict the public and particular employers from discriminating and treating people less favourably," she said.

"The culture in this country is that we are not allowed to discriminate on grounds of sex, sexual orientation, race, religion and belief, and, most recently, age."

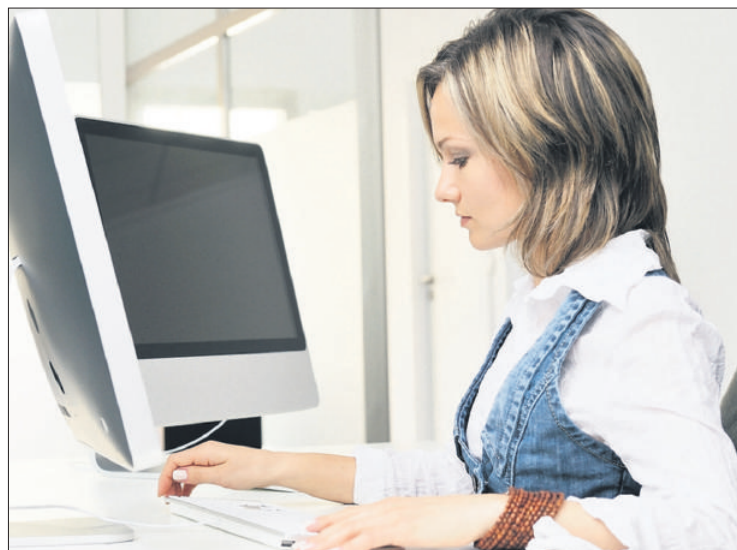
"Now Kent businesses are going to have to get their heads around positively discriminating on grounds of sex and so on when, for example, two graduates from the same college with identical diplomas and other academic results are applying for the same job, but are different in age, sex or ethnicity."

"Is this going to be a case of positively discriminating away from ability and in favour of age, sex or race?"

"Why would employers want to have the outcome based on positive discrimination when it is ability that really matters?"

"When employers are trying to tread the fine line, more legislation to define choice may prove counter-productive in the long run."

At Folkestone-based Saga, spokesman Paul



EQUAL RIGHTS: Employers need to tread carefully to comply with proposed new equality legislation

Green said most people who write to Saga Magazine complain about access to healthcare and how they are kept informed about treatment, and discrimination in access to training and job opportunities.

"In particular, many complain about the legalised discrimination that allows employers to force people to retire, even when the individual concerned wants to – and is able to – continue to work."

"As for services such as insurance, Saga, along with some other insurers, does not have upper age limits. Indeed, the oldest person for whom we have provided travel insurance went to Italy to celebrate her 100th birthday."

"We think it is wrong for insurance compa-

nies simply to refuse because of someone's age, but we can understand why they might want to do so as it is a very specialist area. Compulsion to provide cover from non-specialists will simply lead to high prices."

"Instead insurers ought to be required to direct them to an independent source of information so the customer can easily find a provider that better understands their needs and will provide cover, because of their specialism."

On equal pay for men and women, official statistics show the gender pay gap has been declining since 1997. But even after 30 years since the Equal Pay Act came into effect a gap still exists.

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Lords' 2nds top order hit new low

LORDSWOOD 2nd XI remain adrift in the bottom two of the Premier 2nd XI table after a 65-run defeat to Blackheath.

Richard Cross took 3-50 as Blackheath were restricted to 190-7 from their 50 overs.

In reply Lordswood struggled, with the top four batsmen contributing just 12 runs. They were all out for 125 and are now 19 points from safety.

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Former England captain Martin Corry talks about the state of Kent rugby

Upchurch fail to clinch victory as Minster hang on

LEAGUE leaders Upchurch had to settle for a winning draw after being frustrated by some defiant batting from Minster.

The home side were one wicket away from victory but the Minster tail hung on to prevent an outright victory.

After losing the toss Upchurch made the visitors toil, with Dean Headley and Jim Phillips putting on 122 for the first wicket.

Phillips' departure sparked a mini collapse but Daniel Parker and Sam Bewick between them reach 240-6 from their 50 overs.

In reply Minster began well, with Mark Tucker top scoring with 42. But when he became Craig Bewick's third victim, the visitors struggled and were reduced to 106-5.

CRICKET

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

Upchurch were well on top and Michael Hales junior struck twice in quick succession to leave Minster on the brink of defeat at 150-8.

Chris Collins and Callum Hughes stopped the rot and patiently added 40 to frustrate the Upchurch attack.

Hales junior struck to dismiss Hughes but the home side could not find the final breakthrough they needed to take maximum points.

Fortunately for Upchurch their two nearest challengers also drew, so they retained their ten-point lead. Minster remain mid-table.



OUT: Dean Headley's good knock is ended by James White

Kent Cricket League Division Three

Upchurch 1st XI v Minster 1st XI

Upchurch

	Runs
Dean Headley b White	67
Jim Phillips lbw b Hughes	48
Lee Taylor lbw b Nichol	9
Michael Hales jnr ct Nichol b White	9
Daniel Parker ct Nichol b Hughes	20
Sam Bewick run out (Nichol)	45
Adam Hodder not out	12
Warren Little not out	5
Craig Bewick did not bat	0
Kevin Collis did not bat	0
Andy Holmwood did not bat	0

Extras (15b 5lb 9w)	25
Total (6 wickets, 50 overs)	240

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Nathan Nichol	15	1	40	1
James White	15	2	68	2
Henry Cooper	9	2	49	0
Callum Hughes	8	1	43	2
Mark Tucker	3	0	24	0

Minster

	Runs
Henry Cooper ct Hales jnr b Bewick	18
Mark Tucker ct Taylor b Bewick	42
Neil Hosken ct Headley b Bewick	12
Andy Hosken ct Taylor b Hodder	7
Chris Collins not out	26
George Duggan ct Parker b Collins	9
Craig O'Donoghue ct Bewick b Hales jnr	10
Nathan Nichol ct Little b Hales jnr	10
James White ct Headley b Hodder	2
Callum Hughes ct Little b Hales jnr	32
Aaron Kerry not out	7

Extras (15b 3lb 8w)	26
Total (9 wickets, 59 overs)	201

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Daniel Parker	5	0	23	0
Andy Holmwood	4	0	20	0
Craig Bewick	7	2	19	3
Kevin Collis	9	2	32	1
Adam Hodder	14	2	55	2
Michael Hales jnr	11	0	34	3

LOCAL CRICKET ROUND-UP

KENT PREMIER DIVISION

Lordswood 1st XI v Blackheath 1st XI

LORDSWOOD eased their relegation concerns with a six-wicket victory against fellow strugglers Blackheath.

The visitors opted to bat after winning the toss but lost both openers cheaply as they were reduced to 13-2.

Runs in the middle order rescued Blackheath from a low total as they crept past 200 from their 55 overs.

After losing Chris Thompson for 17, Lordswood took charge with Alex Pattenden (67) and Lyndon Lockhart (62) finding form with the bat.

Peter Stock's 41 guided the hosts home with nine overs to spare, lifting them to seventh place.

Blackheath

	Runs
David Hammond	ct Greaves b Masters 4
Chris Willetts	ct Cruz b Iles 4
Seb Slater	ct Ervine b Stock 41
Alex Senn	ct Ervine b Masters 8
Paul Frith	ct Stock b Turgate 34
Peter Dean	ct Ervine b Lockhart 58
Stuart Fern	ct Ervine b Masters 23
Warren Lee	ct Masters b Lockhart 6
James Hands	not out 2
Riv Monsell	did not bat 0
Richard Woods	did not bat 0
Extras (12b 2lb 16w 3nb) 33	
Total (8 wickets, 55 overs)	213

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Daniel Masters	0	M	R	W
Matt Iles	13	3	52	3
Matthew Turgate	15	4	37	1
Peter Stock	11	2	23	1
Lyndon Lockhart	10	1	54	1
	6	1	33	2

Lordswood

	Runs
Chris Thompson	b Monsell 17
Alan Pattenden	ct Senn b Monsell 67
Lyndon Lockhart	ct Hands b Woods 62
Craig Ervine	ct Frith b Hands 11
Peter Stock	not out 41
Efren Cruz	not out 0
Jeremy Greaves	did not bat 0
Matt Iles	did not bat 0
Mohamed Dada	did not bat 0
Daniel Masters	did not bat 0
Matthew Turgate	did not bat 0
Extras (8b 9lb 1w) 18	
Total (4 wickets, 46 overs)	216

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Warren Lee	12	0	49	0
Riv Monsell	12	3	37	2
James Hands	11	0	54	1
Richard Woods	10	2	47	1
David Hammond	1	0	12	0

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

Sidcup 1st XI v Rainham 1st XI

RAINHAM came up one wicket short from a deserved victory against Sidcup, but the winning draw kept them in the promotion hunt.

Nick Plumridge top scored with 44 as Rainham made 201-7 from their 50 overs, helped by a useful contribution late on from John Dangerfield (42 not out).

The hosts got away to a good start in their innings, but once Plumridge ran out Kevin Mockler, Sidcup lost the next four wickets for a meagre 36 runs.

They looked set for defeat but Rainham were frustrated by resistance from the tail, which hung on until the close.

Rainham

	Runs
James Austin	ct West b Bastin 25
Nick Plumridge	b Noble 44
Glen Cook	ct O'Mara b Mockler 24
Paul Swaine	b Robinson 26
Callum Mitchell	ct Dawes b Robinson 2
James Sherrod	ct O'Mara b Robinson 7
John Dangerfield	not out 42
Daniel Mason	ct O'Mara b Robinson 4
Chris Small	not out 19
Paul Newton	did not bat 0
Matthew Newton	did not bat 0
Extras (5lb 3w) 8	
Total (7 wickets, 50 overs)	201

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Thomas Beament	7	1	39	0
David Bastin	10	2	28	1
Scott Noble	8	0	29	1
Phil Robinson	15	4	47	4
Kevin Mockler	10	0	52	1

Sidcup

Stumps		Runs
Kevin Mockler	run out (Plumridge)	22
Mat Kilbey	run out (Plumridge)	48
Phil Robinson	ct Austin b Sherhod	0
Nell Bastin	b Newton	0
Tim Dawes	b Sherhod	6
Jon West	ct Mason b Sherhod	8
Kim O'mara	b Plumridge	20
Nicholas Pike	not out	21
Scott Noble	ct Austin b Newton	10
David Bastin	b Mitchell	13
Thomas Beament	not out	1
Extras (1b 2lb 8w 7nb) 18		
Total (9 wickets, 50 overs)		167

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Callum Mitchell	9	2	22	1
Matthew Newton	15	3	41	2
James Sherhod	10	2	39	3
Paul Newton	7	0	18	0
John Dangerfield	1	0	14	0
Nick Plumridge	8	0	30	1

KENT FEEDER LEAGUE EAST 1A

Cowdrey v Blue Bell Hill

A LACK of form with the bat cost Blue Bell Hill as they lost to Cowdrey by 49 runs and slip one place above the relegation zone.

Batting first, Cowdrey's top order all made significant contributions. Lewis Wright and Glen Warner hit half centuries as the hosts looked on course for a big score but James Underwood and Joe Fowler took seven wickets to restrict them to 224-8.

In reply, several Blue Bell Hill batsmen made good starts to their innings but none could go on to make a big score, finishing well short of the target required for victory.

Cowdrey

	Runs
Andrew Hammond	ct P Brivio b Fookes 31
Jack Southwart	ct P Brivio b Fowler 29
Lewis Wright	b Underwood 58
Glen Warner	b Fowler 50
Joe Southwart	b Underwood 7
Mark Murray	b Fowler 0
Stephen Wilcox	ct J Brivio b Underwood 0
Sebastian Lewis	b Underwood 7
Thomas Probert	not out 4
John Clark	not out 13
Gary Marshall	did not bat 0
Extras (10b 4lb 9w 2nb) 25	
Total (8 wickets, 46 overs)	224

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
James Underwood	11	1	51	4
David Gardner	5	0	33	0
Paul Fookes	12	0	47	1
Joe Fowler	10	2	34	3
Tom Higsted	8	0	45	0

Blue Bell Hill

Runs	
Ben Arnold	b Lewis 8
Paul Brivio	lbw b Murray 17
Jack Brivio	b Probert 30
Russell Booth	ct Wright b Murray 9
Tom Higsted	ct Murray b Marshall 31
Paul Fookes	st Wilcox Marshall 15
Ben Higsted	b Lewis 15
David Gardner	lbw b Marshall 0
James Underwood	not out 15
Joe Fowler	not out 6
Simon Lawrence	did not bat 0
Extras (7 lb 11w 3nb) 29	
Total (8 wickets, 46 overs)	175

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Sebastian Lewis	12	1	49	2
John Clark	10	3	19	0
Mark Murray	6	0	20	2
Thomas Probert	8	1	21	1
Gary Marshall	7	0	19	3
Joe Southworth	2	0	21	0
Glen Warner	1	0	12	0

KENT LEAGUE DIVISION TWO

2ND XI

Rainham 2nd XI v

Whitstable 2nd XI

WHITSTABLE stayed top of the table after enjoying the best of a draw against Rainham.

Jake Guinan and Luke Jackson helped put the visitors in a good position with a partnership of 128 for the third wicket.

Tim Long's 46 added late impetus as Whitstable reached 280 before being bowled out in the 48th over.

The visitors looked set for another victory when they reduced Rainham to 87-4, but the home side fought back.

Stuart Swaine proved the biggest obstacle, as he hit his first century in ten years to prevent an outright victory.

Whitstable

	Runs
Jamie Watkins	b Ainsley 44
Adam Zanotti	ct Waters b Beer 27
Luke Jackson	ct Taylor b Beer 57
Jake Guinan	ct Burns b Shersby 69
Michael Pilbeam	ct Swaine b Shersby 9
Tom Hulks	ct Taylor b Beer 6
Tim Long	ct Beer b Beer 46
Josh Gould	lbw b Shersby 6
Paul Steele	b Ainsley 0
Charles Bodle	b Ainsley 0
Fred Wratten	not out 0
Extras (2b 2lb 11w 1nb) 16	
Total (all out, 47.4 overs)	280

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Jordan Shersby	10	0	60	3
Robin Beer	12.4	1	78	4
Joe Ainsley	7	0	27	3
Oliver Lea	8	0	39	0
Thomas Burns	6	0	39	0
Kevin Waters	5	0	31	0

Rainham

	Runs
Kevin Taylor	ct Hulks b Long 13
Kevin Waters	st Hulks b Watkins 36
Chris Taylor	b Guinan 13
Stuart Chipperfield	ct Hulks b Watkins 9
Stuart Swaine	not out 103
Jonathan Prince	c&b Bodle 4
Thomas Burns	ct Wratten b Bodle 3
Jordan Shersby	b Long 30
Robin Beer	b Long 0
Joe Ainsley	did not bat 0
Oliver Lea	did not bat 0
Extras (15b 8lb 4w) 27	
Total (8 wickets, 52 overs)	238

Bowlers

	O	M	R	W
Paul Steele	7	1	38	0
Tim Long	13	5	37	3
Josh Gould	8	3	23	0
Luke Jackson	5	1	19	0
Jamie Watkins	8	2	26	2
Jake Guinan	6	1	49	1
Charles Bodle	5	1	23	2

New boy McCammon will lead by example

FOOTBALL

BY DAVID PRITCHARD

GILLINGHAM boss Mark Stimson is hoping new signing Mark McCammon's experiences at Doncaster Rovers last season will rub off on his new team-mates.

The 29-year-old penned a three-year deal with Gills last week after almost two months of talks. He was part of the Rovers squad which clinched promotion from League One with a 1-0 win in the play-offs.

For Stimson, who enjoyed success in non-league football before taking over at Priestfield, the winning habit is a vital ingredient.

He said: "The fact Mark has come from a winning team is important. When you get the taste of winning it's the best feeling in football. His last league game was at Wembley and hopefully he will tell the other players about it."

Signing a forward with physical presence was Stimson's priority over the summer and the 6ft 5in former Brentford hitman fits the bill.

While his strength and height are what interested the Gills boss, he believes McCammon will bring more to the side next season.

Stimson said: "He will help the team both going forward and defensively at set pieces. Whoever plays alongside him will benefit from the flick-ons he will win."

"He has been playing at Doncaster and you can see the way they played. We are not going



TARGET MAN: After nearly two months of talks Gills signed striker Mark McCammon last week from Doncaster Rovers

to take that away from him because he is good with his feet."

McCammon joined up with the rest of the first team squad on Monday before travelling to Spain for a four-day training camp at the luxury La Manga resort.

The transfer almost concludes Gills' transfer

business of the summer. Delroy Facey is in talks with a fellow League Two club about a move away from Priestfield, while midfielder Kevin Maher could still join after training with the squad last week.

Email sport@kosmedia.co.uk

CYCLING



CROWD PLEASER: Scene from last year's Tour in Kent

Cycling still feeling benefit of Le Tour's visit through Kent

TWELVE months ago two million people flanked roadsides across Kent as the county played host to one of the biggest sporting events in the world.

It was only the Tour de France's third visit to Britain in the event's 104-year history and came the day after London began the Tour by hosting the Prologue time trial.

With the 126-mile route bathed in July sunshine, the crowds cheered on a long breakaway by British rider David Millar before Australian Robbie McEwen sprinted to win the stage in Canterbury.

After the race, Tour director Christian Prudhomme said: "The enormous crowds in Kent have taken our breath away. The Tour has been staggered by the warm reception we have been given by the British public."

The Tour would later become embroiled in several drugs scandals, but at the time there was little doubt the event had been a huge sporting success for Kent.

Stronger

The 2008 edition of the world's most prestigious road race started in Brittany last weekend, but a year on from its brief rendezvous in southern England the impact is still being felt in Kent.

Rod Kennison was among the thousands of amateur cyclists to ride the course a week before the Tour. As president of Medway Velo he has seen the effects first hand.

He said: "It has generated a terrific amount of interest. Our club has doubled in size, we have probably got 30-40 new members because of the race. We had interest straight after the race, a really good response. We are getting stronger and stronger."

Ian Ferrell, chairman of VC Deal, agrees: "There was such a buzz around last year, it really did bring top level cycling to the people. Nationally cycling is quite strong, especially since the British team did so well at the World Championships. With the Olympics as well I think it's all part of a whole process where we advertise the sport."

The Tour will go through Italy later this month before finishing in Paris on July 27.

Boarders on a high at arrival of British tour

SNOWBOARDING

IT MAY be the height of summer, but all eyes will be on the Chatham Ski and Snowboard Centre this weekend with the arrival of the British Snow Tour.

The biggest event on the centre's calendar, it will feature more than 100 of the country's best freestylers battling it out in the British Snowboard and Freeski Slopestyle Championships.

The prestigious event begins on Saturday with the snowboard half of the competition.

A big air jam will kick-start the event in the morning before the championships get underway at 1pm.

Boarders will be judged on the tricks they perform as they make their way down a course which features a kink rail shipped in from a snowpark in the United States and a huge 60ft battleship box.

On Sunday it will be the turn of the freeskiers to show off their skills.

The event is part of a six-part tour, which began in Halifax, West Yorkshire last weekend. Part of the snow tour's remit is to discover new talent and it will visit St



AIRBOURNE: Local boarder Cody Hierons will be showing his skills this weekend

John Fisher Catholic School and Chatham South School later this week to encourage youngsters to take up the sport.

The Chatham centre has the longest slope in the South East and successfully hosted the event last year, with local snowboarders Callum Wilkin and Cody Hierons impressing by finishing in the medals.

Wilkin, 18, from Maidstone won bronze while Chatham's Hierons, four years his junior, swept to silver.

Quartet edge closer to carding a place in Open

GOLF

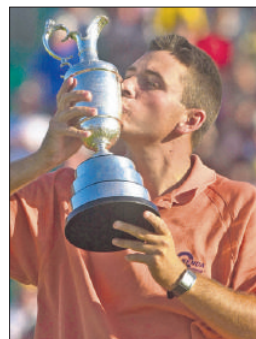
MEDWAY golfers Lloyd Godwin, Nicolas Panting, Warren Wood and Daniel Casey had the chance to gain qualifying spots for this year's Open Championship at Royal Birkdale, after progressing through the regional qualifying tournament at Rochester last week.

The quartet, who are professionals at the Rochester & Cobham Park course which hosted the regional qualifying, claimed four of the 18 spots for the local qualifying final.

They were potentially two rounds away from playing at Royal Birkdale.

Course manager David Smith was delighted with the turnout for the event which had 101 golfers competing to move a step closer to the dream of playing with the likes of Padraig Harrington and Sergio Garcia.

Smith said: "The event had a quite an international feel to it. We had golfers from Sweden, Germany and Argentina competing. I was extremely delighted to see a large contingent of Kent golfers battling to make it and we had four from Rochester &



Picture: ADAM KERRY

DREAM: Ben Curtis wins The Open at Royal St Georges at Sandwich in 2003

Cobham golf club qualify, which was great to see."

For the result from yesterday's qualifying final log on to www.yourmedway.co.uk.

Rising star Matt Haines missed the qualifier at his Rochester & Cobham Park after he was called up to play for England in the European Amateur Team Championships in Turin, Italy.

The 18-year-old helped the team reach the final before losing to Ireland.

SEND YOUR STORIES TO SPORTS EDITOR GLENN PEARSON AT glenn.pearson@kosmedia.co.uk

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Motor racing legend John Surtees talks about the importance of karting

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